Hafa Adai!

Court OKs IPI request for more time to pay attorney fees. PAGE 5
EPA awards NMI nearly $566K for Yutu waste management. PAGE 6

75¢

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXX, Issue No. 196

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Govt shutdown averted as $101M budget is enacted

» Conference committee not unanimous in adopting its 'product'
» Reps. Sablan, Propst vote against passage of budget bill

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives, the Senate, and the Office of the Governor worked through the night and early morning yesterday to enact a budget law for fiscal year 2021 that allocates a little over $101 million for government operations and averted a potential government shutdown.

See BUDGET on Page 4

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signs the budget bill into law at the Office of the Governor's conference room early yesterday morning.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

USDOL OKs CNMI PWS report

The CNMI Department of Commerce announced yesterday that the CNMI's 2020 Prevailing Wage Study report for the CW-1 visa program had been approved.

In a letter dated Sept. 28, 2020, Renata Adjibodou, deputy administrator for the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, informed the CNMI of the approval of the CNMI's 2020 Prevailing Wage Study report. The new wages will apply to CW-1 determinations beginning

See USDOL on Page 4

Long weekends as Austerity Mondays kick off

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Austerity Mondays for the CNMI government will start this Oct. 5, making today, Friday, the last Austerity Friday, according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres yesterday.

In his memorandum to all department and activity heads, Torres said that, pursuant to Public Law 21-35—the Appropriations Act (budget) that was just signed yesterday—Mondays are designated as

See LONG on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Oct. 1, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	2,443	45	2,488
Recovered	1,811	11	1,822
Active	572	45	617
Deaths	48	1	49
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			50,292

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	70	3	73
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			19,345*

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases. The community-based testing has been temporarily suspended.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

Bomb threat shuts down airport

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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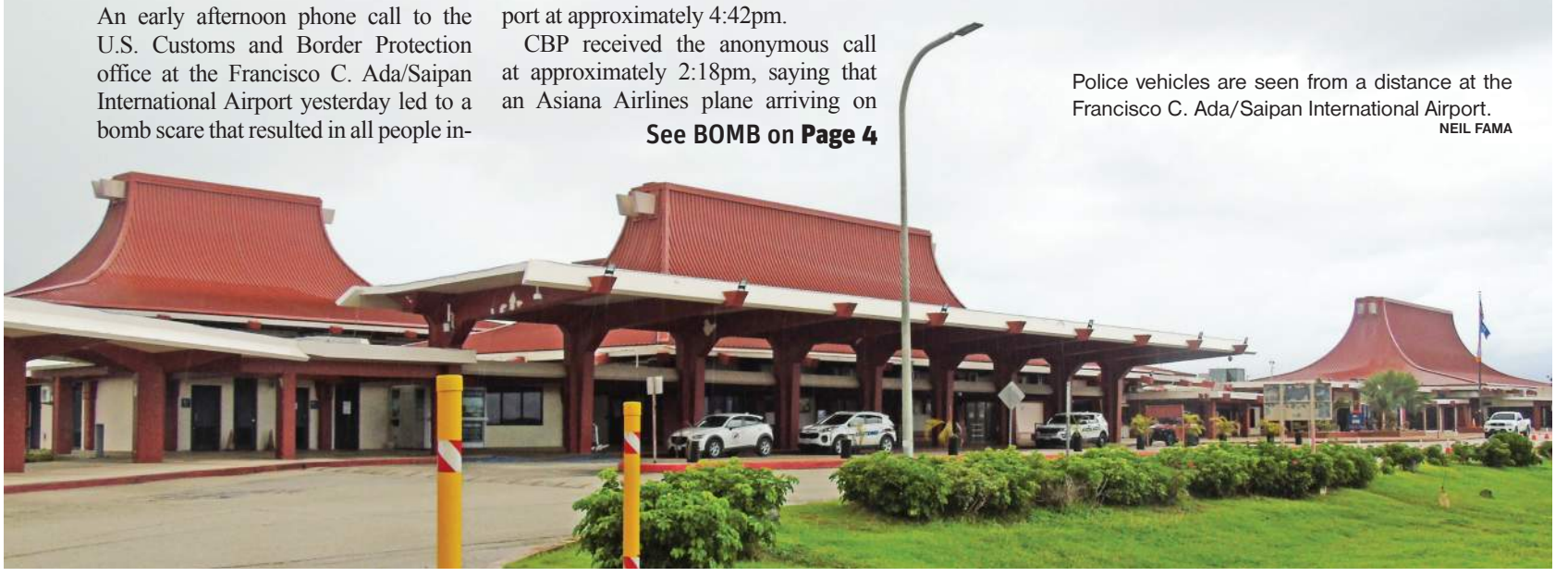
REPORTER

An early afternoon phone call to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection office at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport yesterday led to a bomb scare that resulted in all people inside the airport being evacuated or told to leave until the all-clear is given.

The all-clear was declared at the airport at approximately 4:42pm.

CBP received the anonymous call at approximately 2:18pm, saying that an Asiana Airlines plane arriving on

See BOMB on Page 4



Police vehicles are seen from a distance at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

NEIL FAMA

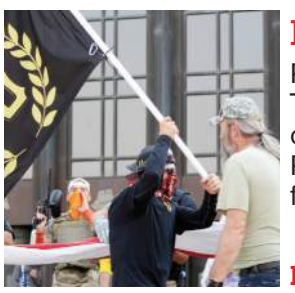
COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

INSIDE

BUSINESS
John C. Berrocal plans to renovate an old watering hole on Rota called Da Waves into a tavern.
PAGE 12



NATION
President Donald Trump's refusal to criticize the far-right Proud Boys draws fierce blowback.
PAGE 13

ASIA
The rape and killing of a Dalit woman shocks India and sparks outrage across the country.
PAGE 14

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Marpac donates care packages for front-line workers

Marianas Pacific Distributors donated 300 care packages to the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force last Sept. 25, as part of Anheuser-Busch's #OneTeam movement, which works to show support for front-line workers facing the daily challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each care package includes face masks, hand sanitizers, water bottles, One Team T-shirts, hats, and flashlights, among other items.

"I want to thank [Marpac] resident manager Guy Pudney for contributing and donating over 300 gift bags to all of our first responders," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. "Thank you for your continued support and appreciating all the hard work of our first responders. To the people of our Commonwealth, let's continue to fight COVID-19 and not each other. Let's continue to make the CNMI safe."

Warren Villagomez, chairman of the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, also thanked Marpac for the donation of front-liner gift bags. "These gift bags will reach every single first responder that is out there taking on the task of responding to COVID-19 risks, as well as other hazardous activities happening in the CNMI. These bags will be distributed to the first responders [on] Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. We are extremely grateful for the donation and we thank all of the business community, especially businesses like Marpac, that continue to reach out to our first responders who are fully committed to serving, whether it be at the airport, seaport, as well as responding to every call here in the CNMI."

Pudney himself said, "On behalf of our owners and Anheuser-Busch, we at Marpac would like to thank all the first responders and front-line health workers on the COVID- 19 Task Force for their wholehearted and tireless approach to keeping the CNMI safe. This pandemic may have changed the way we live but it has not changed the way we will unite and fight against this virus as a team, One-Team. We will continue to do our part and we invite others in the community to do theirs to help keep everyone safe. I raise a glass to all our heroes in the hospitals, medical centers, and on the frontlines and say, 'thank you!'" ***(PR)***

From left, Tom Basa, Jr. (Marpac consumer sales manager); Patrick Guerrero (governor's authorized representative); Gerald Deleon Guerrero (special assistant Homeland Security); Guy Pudney (Marpac resident manager); Gov. Ralph DLG Torres; Warren Villagomez (Governor's COVID-19 Task Force head); chief Kevin Aldan (DPS COVID-19 Task Force representative); James Lee (Marpac beverage sales manager).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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1 of 2 who allegedly took sea turtle to plead guilty

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

One of the two men facing charges in the U.S District Court for the NMI for allegedly illegally trying to take a green sea turtle is set to change his plea.

Russel Rekemel Solomon, one of the two men who are being sued for taking an endangered sea turtle, could not appear for a change of plea hearing last Monday so he asked the court to reschedule his hearing. Solomon was scheduled to change his plea yesterday but his plea agreement remains sealed.

According to Saipan Tribune archives, Solomon and his co-defendant, Jose Machutaro Ichiro Sablan, are charged with conspiracy to unlawfully take an endangered species at the federal court.

On June 7, Solomon and Sablan allegedly conspired to drag a sea turtle across Tank Beach in Kagman by a rope tied around the turtle's shell. The green sea turtle is considered an endangered species.

The charge includes a notice of forfeiture to the U.S. government of any materials used for taking or selling of the endangered species. The notice listed two cell phones.

Both defendants appeared before District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Manglona last Aug. 21 and initially pleaded not guilty before the court.

Manglona then set the jury trial for Oct. 27, 2020 at 10am. The judge ordered Solomon and Sablan to be released on their own recognizance with certain conditions.

David Banes was appointed by the court to represent Solomon, while Sablan is represented by Steven Pixley. Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe represented the federal government.

$5K bail for man who allegedly threatened to stab his wife

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court imposed a $5,000 cash bail on a man who allegedly threatened to stab his wife and burn down her home.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a $5,000 cash bail on Ricky Michael Jones, a 35-year-old man accused of threatening to kill his common-law wife.

Jones was charged with criminal trespass, assault, and disturbing the peace. He was represented by the Public Defender's Office during a bail hearing last Wednesday, while assistant attorney general Erin Toolan appeared for the government.

Camacho remanded Jones to the custody of the Department of Corrections and ordered him to return to court on Oct. 7 for his preliminary hearing and on Oct.19 at 9am for his arraignment.

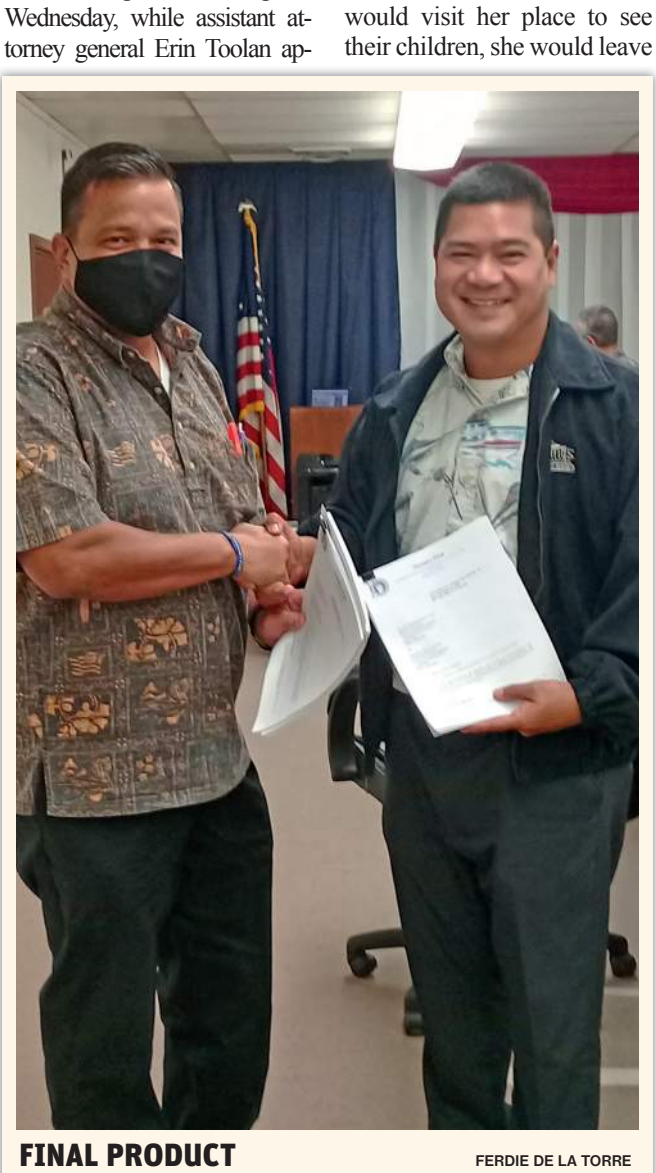
According to the victim's complaint, Jones showed up at her house on Sept. 27, 2020, and he appeared to have been drinking. She said she was shocked to see Jones at her house and he asked her where she had been and when she refused to answer him, he got aggressive. The victim explained that whenever Jones would visit her place to see their children, she would leave and stay at her grandmother's place in Papago.

She said Jones raised his voice at her as she would not respond and slammed the door twice before punching a wall. Jones then threw a beer bottle on the floor and threatened to stab the victim and burn the house down.

Jones allegedly also threatened to take the victim's car and crash it and then cut her head off, according to the victim.

The woman told police that it was not the first time that Jones got physical with her.

Jones's common-law wife told police that they had been separated for about three months.



FINAL PRODUCT FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Senate vice president Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), left, shakes hands with Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) as they hold the conference committee's "product" that resolved the Senate's and House's disagreements on the government's budget for fiscal year 2021 during a session in the Senate chamber Wednesday late at night. Hofschneider and Blanco led the Senate and the House teams in the conference committee, respectively.

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Third coconut rhinoceros beetle site found on Rota

Last Sept. 12, he Department of Lands and Natural Resources received a critical tip regarding possible infestation of the coconut rhinoceros beetles in the Gagani and Talakhaya areas of Rota.

CRB field supervisor Mark C. Manglona, reported to the scene and confirmed the CRB infestation through drone surveying. Decaying coconut trees and scissor cuts on the palm leaves were spotted via drone. On the following day, Sunday, Sept. 13, 2020, the CRB team immediately began dissecting trees, setting traps, and logging CRB findings. Volunteers throughout the week, from the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services and from the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, assisted the CRB team with this pressing matter.

The areas of concern are Talakhaya, Gagani, Poña Point, Gu'a, and along the Oggog stream, which comprises an area of 978,749 square meters. Rota DLNR resident director David M. Calvo reported the following CRB findings: 250 unaged grubs, 411 instars, 27 adult males, and 40 adult females. This new site is four miles from the original CRB containment areas, Tweksberry Beach Park and Papau (Liyo).

This has prompted Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig to declare a State of Significant Emergency regarding the CRB due to the impact on Rota's agriculture. Atalig expressed the urgency of the matter to heighten aggressive eradication management before matters go out of control.

Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Anthony Benavente met with Atalig and Invasive Species coordinator Frank LG Aldan to develop preventative measures for the CRB reaching Tinian and Saipan. He appreciates the immediate and proactive response from the Municipality of Rota to continue eradication efforts at the newly identified area. Benavente is exploring other methodologies and strategies in communication with USDA Guam and University of Guam.

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios are aware of the situation and stress the importance of addressing and containing the outbreak. The governor emphasized that we cannot do this alone and requires participation from the public as Rota fights this battle.

Collaboration with local landowners is critical to help solve this problem. Plans are in place for urgent public outreach to inform the public of the new sighting and seek their involvement to support the CRB Team's efforts. The Municipality of Rota is optimistic in containing the spread the CRB with continual support from the general public, federal partners, and the administration. ***(PR)***

BUDGET

From Page 1

Tedious work by the Legislature's conference committee in reaching "a middle ground" between the Senate and the House of Representatives and their disagreements on the government's proposed budget for fiscal year 2021 led to the passing of an appropriations bill that allocates $101,032,218 for the government's operations and activities for fiscal year 2021 early yesterday morning and its subsequent signing by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres into law.

After reviews by the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of Management and Budget, Torres signed House Bill 21-124, SD2, CCSI into Public Law 21-35 at 4:15am.

Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios thanked the Legislature for their efforts to pass the budget bill, despite its 11th hour deliberations and passage.

Torres said in a statement that his administration is committed to revitalizing the CNMI economy "through strengthening the government's tools toward economic diversification and resilience."

"Revitalization of our infrastructure to harden against disasters. Revitalization of our community through fostering ownership for the islands we call home," the governor said.

For now, public services will keep running, allowing government employees to work as the CNMI navigates through the COVID-19 pandemic, Torres said.

Torres said he and Palacios were encouraged when they received news that the Legislature's conference committee had adopted their report.

Torres said he, Attorney General Edward Manibusan, deputy attorney general Lillian Tenorio, Office of Management and Budget special assistant Virginia Villagomez, senior policy adviser Robert Hunter, and other officials remained ready overnight, awaiting the votes by both chambers on the budget bill.

"We committed through the early morning to ensuring a budget was enacted before the work day to ensure a shutdown was averted," Torres said.

Palacios said there are some needs unmet by the budget reduction, but the hard work of providing essential services will continue. "We must take leadership in not just surviving with less but putting in the hard work in creating more," Palacios said.

The joint Senate and House conference committee completed their "product" but not without a drama after failing to get a unanimous vote when Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan), who is a member of the three-man House team on the committee, voted against its adoption.

After a brief discussion during an emergency session, all nine senators voted "yes" for the passage of the budget bill in the form of House Bill 21-124, SD2, CCS1.

Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota), who walked out last week during the Senate's passage of its version of the bill, voted "yes" with strong reservations.

Before the House's turn to vote during the emergency session, a copy of the bill was immediately forwarded to Torres, who was waiting in the Office of the Governor's conference room.

Discussions in the House were long as Reps. Tina Sablan (D-Saipan) and Sheila Babauta (D-Saipan) raised a lot of questions.

At 2:05am yesterday, the House voted 18-2 for the adoption and passage of the bill.

Reps. Sablan and Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan) voted against it. Propst, who resigned yesterday, was quiet throughout the proceedings.

Guerrero, who is a member of the conference committee but voted against the "product's" adoption, later voted for the passage of the bill.

After the conference committee adopted its "product," Senate vice president Judge U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), who led the Senate conference committee team, recognized the leadership of the Senate and the House for agreeing to wait this long into the wee hours to entertain the work.

House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan), who led the House's team in the conference committee, said it wasn't easy working with different numbers, long days and nights, before finally coming to an agreement at the 10th hour.

"I'm happy about that, that we're able to get a product out of the House and I understand also that the Senate passed the bill," he said. "It was not an easy exercise. We're happy that we got something up."

Blanco said because of the reprogramming authority they gave the governor, he can reprogram funds for the overtime of essential employees like police officers.

"So those are the reasons why we support that portion because we understand there will be shortfalls. We don't know what's going to happen next fiscal year," he said.

Blanco said it is uncertain when this pandemic is going to end, so all these planning that they put in the bill to fund agencies and departments at this level could still change. "It could get worse, it could get better. So that is why it's very important [that we give] that reprogramming authority [to] the governor," he said.

At the moment, the declaration of emergency already gives the governor 100% reprogramming authority, Blanco said, but specifically to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the new language governing the reprogramming authority, this gives Torres the flexibility to move money to other agencies that may have shortfalls, he said.

Sen. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota), who was a member of the conference committee, said the deliberations were tedious; however, it led to a product of a compromise that both chambers adopted.

"It is not a perfect budget, and it may not address all the requests of our departments and agencies with the very limited financial resources for appropriation but at least we now have a budget for fiscal year 2021," Santos said.

Rep. Sablan said the unlimited reprogramming authority that the committee conferees gave the governor "is really giving up the power of the purse."

"This is a blank check to the governor to reprogram any and all funds with the Executive Branch as he sees fit," she added.

Sablan said if the governor takes this broad interpretation, then it's 100% reprogramming power for $75 million.

Sablan argued that in this incredibly challenging fiscal crisis, what is needed is not to give the governor more flexibility but for the Legislature to exert more control over the public purse, more oversight, more monitoring, and holding the governor to the law.

"I cannot imagine, under these circumstances especially, why a 100% reprogramming power is necessary or prudent," she said.

Press secretary Kevin Bautista, said in an interview that Torres and Palacios officially received the budget bill at 2:08am Thursday after the House voted to pass it at 2:05am. Bautista said the Office of the Governor received an advanced copy of the conference committee's report at about 11:50pm Wednesday, or 10 minutes before the start of the new fiscal year.

Bautista said Torres and Palacios earlier mentioned that they are not going to let this government shut down before the beginning of the working day.

"Our understanding is that because the Legislature passed the budget, officially passed the budget at 2:08am, we're going to do our due diligence to ensure that we have a balanced budget enacted into law before the beginning of the working day at 7:30am," Bautista said.

BOMB

From Page 1

Saipan would explode. According to a Commonwealth Ports Authority statement, the U.S. Transportation Security Administration and CPA were immediately notified and CPA immediately activated its airport emergency plan.

CPA chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds confirmed that all peole who were present at the airport were told to stay out of the area until the all-clear.

King-Hinds and CPA executive director Chris Tenorio said that the Federal Bureau of Investigation and CPA are looking into the situation and couldn't give more information as the situation is still under investigation.

According to King-Hinds, it is her understanding that the phone call was recorded. Since it is still under investigation, King-Hinds is not at liberty to relay what was said in the recording.

The all-clear was declared at the airport at approximately 4:42pm.

This was not the first such bomb threat at the airport. CPA received a bomb threat from a caller threatening to blow up the Saipan airport on July 31, 2019. According to a statement by CPA, the FBI later determined that the threat was not credible.

In accordance with that plan, CPA notified its tenants and the FBI about the bomb threat, and CPA Ports Police immediately began its investigation. The Ports Police, aided by dog sniffers from the K-9 unit, searched the airport and found nothing suspicious.

LONG

From Page 1

"austerity days" for the government, including its branches, departments, autonomous agencies, public corporations, political subdivisions, and instrumentality that elect to implement austerity days to operate within their budget allocations.

The Legislature found that due to the time difference between the CNMI and the U.S. mainland, it would be more conducive for government employees to work on Fridays instead of Mondays because the federal government is closed on Mondays in the CNMI.

Torres noted that Oct. 12, a Monday, is Commonwealth Cultural Day, a paid legal holiday in the CNMI.

"Therefore, the austerity day of that specific week will be observed on Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2020," the governor said.

He said for fiscal year 2021, if a legal holiday in the CNMI falls on a Monday, the austerity will be observed on the Tuesday of that week.

USDOL

From Page 1

Sept. 29, 2020.

"Lt. Gov. [Arnold I.] Palacios and I extend our appreciation and thanks to Secretary of Labor [Eugene] Scalia, deputy administrator Adjibodou, and her team for their guidance and diligence as they review and approve our 2020 PWS report. This report will assist our local businesses," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

A total of 820 Standard Occupational Classification Detailed Titles are found in the U.S. economy "with wage values for the CW-1 visa program" – 484 Detailed Titles were captured by the CNMI 2020 PWS. Out of the 484 CNMI detailed titles, the U.S. Department of Labor reviewed and approved 402 for use in the 2020 PWS wage data, 74 will use Guam's Occupational Employment Statistics wage data and 344 occupations will be assigned the Adjusted OES wage data, according to USDOL.

"We have been patiently waiting for the approval of the 2020 PWS. I am glad that deputy administrator Adjibodou and her team have finally completed their review of the report and have approved it. Our local businesses have also been anxiously awaiting the approval of this report. Again, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the deputy administrator and her team for their continued support and the guidance they provide our CNMI PWS team to ensure that this report meets all the statistical standards contained in the CW-1 Interim Final Rule at 20 CFR 55.410(e)," said Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman.

The 2020 PWS CW-1 Wage Table report can be accessed on the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Foreign Labor Certification website at https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/foreign-labor/.

The 2020 PWS Report can be accessed on the CNMI Department of Commerce, Central Statistics Division website at https://ver1.cnmi-commerce.com/divisions/central-statistics/report-hub/.

Questions and inquiries regarding the prevailing wage report should be directed to the Central Statistics Division at telephone number 664-3045 or 3023 or email address cnmi.csd@commerce.gov.mp.

For all other inquiries not related to the survey or the reports, direct them to the CNMI Department of Labor. ***(PR)***

Court OKs IPI request for more time to pay attorney fees

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

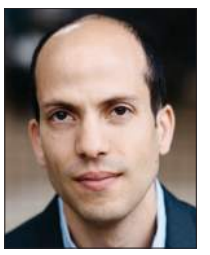
The U.S. District Court for the NMI has granted Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's request for another extension to pay the attorney's fees in the lawsuit filed by seven construction workers over labor complaints and other allegations.

District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted IPI's request for a 30-day extension to pay the attorney's fees in the amount of $93,834.25. Manglona also ordered IPI to make interim payment to the plaintiffs' lawyers as soon as funds are available.

IPI was ordered to pay the full amount of the plaintiffs' lawyers' fees by Oct. 24. Manglona added in her ruling that this is the only instance the court will grant IPI an extension to pay.

Manglona also notified IPI of the possibility of liquidating some of its assets or direct available cash flow to satisfy court orders rather than paying other expenses.

Berline


Halegua

Michael Dotts, who serves as IPI's counsel, said that, as of the Sept. 24 deadline, IPI had no funds and no financial capacity to a make a payment However, he assured the court that funding will be available within 30 to 60 days.

Donald Browne, IPI chief executive officer, said in a declaration to support Dotts' request that IPI has sources of funds outside of the CNMI and receives funding on a sporadic basis. IPI expects to have funds available to cover the liability in 30 to 60 days.

Browne said that the COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted IPI's business starting in December 2019 and forced IPI's business to close entirely on March 17, 2020.

Browne added that IPI is still prohibited to reopen and, even if allowed to reopen, there are no tourists coming and the tourism market is not expected to recover until May 2021 at the earliest.

The request for an extension comes following Manglona's recent denial of IPI's request to suspend court proceedings in the lawsuit filed by Tianming Wang, Dong Han, Yongjun Meng, Liangcai Sun, Youli Wang, Qingchun Xu, and Duxin Yan. The seven construction workers are represented by attorneys Aaron Halegua and Bruce Berline and they have asked the court to issue an order awarding them $3.86 million in compensatory damages and $7.72 million in punitive damages.

The plaintiffs worked for IPI's former contractor and subcontractor: MCC International Saipan Ltd. Co. and Gold Mantis Construction Decoration (CNMI).

2nd suspect in alleged burglary of government office is released

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Superior Court has granted the request for early release by the second defendant who is allegedly involved in breaking into a government office in As Perdido.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo granted the request of Rollin Ulechong Skang to be released to his older brother as his third-party custodian.

Skang and co-defendant Maynard Dela Cruz are accused of burglarizing the Division of Parks and Recreation office in As Perdido.

Dela Cruz was released to his aunt last week following his bail modification hearing.

Skang, represented by attorney Sean Frink, also asked the court to reduce his $20,000 cash bail to $5,000 and allow his brother to post 10% of the reduced bail. Govendo granted the request and ordered Skang to be released to his brother upon posting $500.

The judge imposed a curfew of 6pm to 6am on Skang and prohibited him from getting in contact with his co-defendant, Dela Cruz. Skang was also ordered to return to court for a status conference hearing on Nov. 10.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas, who represented the government, opposed the release of Skang to his brother after learning that the third-party custodian had earlier been arrested for allegedly creating a disturbance. However, after learning that he has no criminal record, Barcinas did not object further.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, DPS received a call on Aug. 17 regarding a burglary and theft incident at the Parks and Recreation office where five bushcutters, a battery pack, a blower, and a container of gas were reported missing.

The Theft Apprehension Select Coalition Task Force or TASC under the CNMI Department of Public Safety identified Dela Cruz and Skang as the perpetrators after an informant provided police with information regarding individuals selling equipment that had been reported stolen.

Dela Cruz and Skang were both charged with conspiracy, burglary, and theft.

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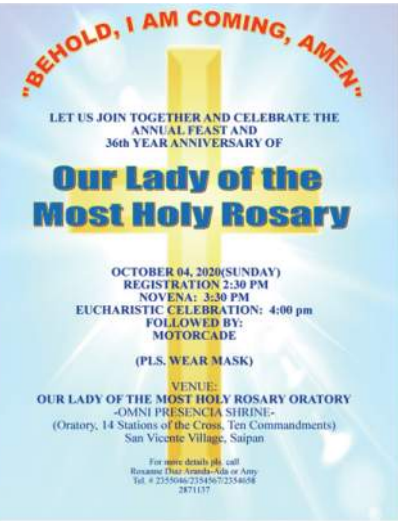
MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

The officers and members of The Children of God the Father Inc., Saipan Group wants to express our
deepest gratitude
to each and every one who generously helped, one way or another, for the restoration of Our Lady the Most Holy Rosary Oratory and all the volunteers who offered their time for the Lord.

We appreciate all your effort and support in rebuilding this Holy place.

Aida Acosta
Belen Mabini
Beng Ebetuer
Cesar & Linda Dumatol
Christine's Family (Julie Cunanan)
CUC Restoration Group
Deo & Loise Manese
DPW
Eduardo Uy
Elsa & Zapanta Rosauro
Evelyn Marestela
Florence c. Sablan
Girlie Pangelinan
Gold Ribbon Management, Staff & Valued Patrons
Guadalupe Sabino
Hotel Sun Palace
Irma dela Rosa
J. C. Tenorio Ent. Inc.
Jenny Ariar
Jet Holding Company
Jhun Calvo
Jigz Barber Shop
Jimmy Cruz
Jocelyn A. Ferrer
Joef Dionisio
Joshua Ballesteros
Krizia & AJ -(Malou Mendoza)
Kuy Bun & Nenita C. Ta
Lelina T. Torres
Lorna Manao
M/M Alex & Lita Buniag
M/M Benjamin Uy
M/M Bong Malasarte
M/M Casiano & Narcisa Bostre
M/M Guillermo Faller
M/M Henry & Chat Bautista
M/M Pablo & Ma. Lourdes Mendoza
MAFEA
Martin Rino
Mayor's Office Saipan
Melba Villaga
Modern Stationery
Mr & Mrs. Martin Perillo
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kautz (Kautz Glass) and Staff
Mrs. Cabrera
Myrtle Cascabel
Neal Anthony Reyes
Nelda Jonale
Neo-Cathecuminical Group - Saipan & Guam
Nestor Siscar
Nestor Villegas
Noel Wong
Nolito Santos
North Pacific Builders
Numbers International
OLHR Santo Nino Fiesta Donors
Pablo & Ma. Lourdes Mendoza
Ricky Castro
RN Visions, Inc.
Roger Vales
Roland & Ma. Lourdes Johnson
Roland & Mabel Casilla
Rosini Reyes
Rusell & Erlinda Torres
Saipan Ice & Water Co. Inc.
Saipan Pacific
Saipan Simbang Gabi Group
Sapphire Ent. Inc
Shirley DLR Kim/ Makeover Beauty Salon
Shirley R. O
SmartStart Learning LLC
Sto. Nino Group Saipan
Super Tech -Mar Masilungan
Tammy Torres
Tan Sui Lin Foundation
Terry Pangelinan and Family
Traders Ins., Tropex Garden & L&M Management & Staff
T&A Air conditioning
United Filipino Organization
Virgilio & Josephine Ramos
Wilson & Julieta Cunanan
Winzy Corp
YCO Hardware
Zaydrian Castillo
Zenaida Reyes


"BEHOLD, I AM COMING, AMEN"
LET US JOIN TOGETHER AND CELEBRATE THE ANNUAL FEAST AND 36th YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary
OCTOBER 04, 2020(SUNDAY)
REGISTRATION 2:30 PM
NOVENA: 3:30 PM
EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION: 4:00 pm
FOLLOWED BY:
MOTORCADE
(PLS. WEAR MASK)
VENUE:
OUR LADY OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY ORATORY
-OMNI PRESENCIA SHRINE-
(Oratory, 14 Stations of the Cross, Ten Commandments)
San Vicente Village, Saipan

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. **DIANA M. QUITUGUA,** Defendant.	**Civil Action No. 10-0261** **THIRD AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 20th day of September, 2011, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property. The undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **12th day of November, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.,** at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 326 R 14, (part of Lot 326 R 13, which was part of Lot 326 R 08, part Lot 316 R 02, part original Lot 316 R 01), containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 326 R 00, the original of which recorded on June 2, 1998 as Document No. 98-1643 at Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Public Sale: The auction shall be open to the general public

2. With Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.

3. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
c) to reject any and all bids.

4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing or by email with full name and complete signature to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.

5. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Marianas Public Land Trust.

6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Bidders are to contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property is being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 29th day of September, 2020.

/s/
Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ. (F0197)
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff, Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. **ABRAHAM E. TAISACAN and LYDIA O. TAISACAN,** Defendant.	**Civil Action No. 13-0093** **NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Decree and Judgment for Balance After Property Sale; Writ of Execution Re Judicial Sale; and Order in Aid of Judgment (hereinafter "Decree and Writ of Execution") entered in the above-titled action on March 10, 2020, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the balance of remaining due on the judgment to the Bank of Guam from Defendants Abraham E. Taisacan and Lydia O. Taisacan. The undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on **November 6, 2020 at 10: am, at the Bank of Guam Rota Branch,** Rota Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands premises and real properties, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said Decree and Writ of Execution, to wit:

1. Tract Parcel No. 22055-3, Rota, containing an area of 794 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3022/89, the original of which was recorded 26 May 1989 under File No. 89-1659 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.
2. Lot No. 002 R 03, Rota, containing an aera of 537 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 R 00, the original of which was registered 12 November 1971 as Document No. 1289 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale:

1. Public Sale: The action shall be open to the general public.
2. With Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conduction the auction sale:
   a. To withdraw the properties listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such properties are accepted;
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
4. Bids: Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for all of the properties listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the properties. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: (670) 234-7859; Fax: (670) 234-5749; Email: robert.torres@rttlawgroup.com. Any person who submits his/her bid shall provide a copy of his/her valid Identification Card, or other legally acceptable form of identification. A written bid shall include the bidder's signature, with his/her telephone number, mailing address, and any other contact information.
5. Deposit and Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days from the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which will revert to the Bank of Guam.
6. Change of Terms: Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty: Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the properties are being sold **"AS IS"** and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real properties will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer. A copy of the appraisal report and other documents pertaining to the mortgaged property to be sold at auction is available upon request. If necessary, a copy of the appraisal report will be provided to the Bank of Guam Manager for Rota, for on-island bidders.

Dated this 28th day of August 2020.

/s/
ROBERT T. TORRES, F0197
Auctioneer

EPA awards NMI nearly $566K for Yutu waste management

HONOLULU—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is awarding $565,980 to the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands for expenses related to the consequences of Super Typhoon Yutu for hazardous and solid waste management.

Funding for this award comes from the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act and is the first installment of the $56 million allocated for these activities.

"EPA is committed to help improve hurricane-impacted waste management facilities in CNMI," said EPA regional administrator John Busterud. "EPA is pleased that CNMI will continue work in building stronger, more resilient waste management."

This funding is helping CNMI's Office of Planning and Development to build solid waste management capacity through new staff hires and the formation of an interisland taskforce. The task force will include the Department of Public Works and the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality and will develop plans for CNMI's post-disaster recovery, including zero waste projects and emergency infrastructure repairs to the Marpi landfill.

EPA will continue to work closely with the CNMI throughout their recovery to provide technical assistance and collaborate with other federal agencies involved in recovery efforts. EPA expects to award the remaining ASADRA funds to multiple CNMI agencies over a five-year period.

Super Typhoon Yutu, a Category 5 typhoon, slammed the Northern Mariana Islands in October 2018. EPA's immediate recovery work, which cost about $30 million, was authorized and funded by Federal Emergency Management Agency-issued mission assignments in early November 2018. Work included collecting and disposing of over 31,000 units of electronic waste and hazardous wastes, collecting and recycling 1,447 damaged electric transformers, and working with the local government to restore drinking water supplies affected by the storm.

Earlier this year, EPA awarded a separate $10.4 million in ASADRA funding for Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving fund for wastewater treatment work and drinking water facilities impacted by Super Typhoon Yutu. ***(PR)***

Power outage on Oct. 6

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2020, from 9am to 1pm in portions of Lower Base and Puerto Rico. This will allow linemen of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to safely replace rusted power pole hardware on 15 primary poles along Industrial Drive in Puerto Rico.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the working area.

Service area(s) affected include the CPA Seaport, DPS Boating Safety, Shell & Mobil Transfer Stations, Division of Customs (Seaport), Saipan Shipping Co., Inc., U.S. Army Reserve, and the Division of Fish & Wildlife. The S-1 and S-3 wastewater lift stations will be affected.

For more information, contact the CUC hotline (236-4333). ***(PR)***

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-001-21

PROVIDE AND INSTALL SEAWATER FIREFIGHTING PUMP/MOTOR SYSTEM

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals (RFP), and other contract provisions, for proposals to provide and install a new seawater firefighting pump/motor assembly at the Port of Saipan. The Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the CPA because the CPA wishes to acquire services and or products that cannot be evaluate by cost alone (NMIAC §40-50-225(a)).

All works shall take place at the Port of Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposal package is available for pick-up beginning October 01, 2020, at the Executive Director's Office, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. The proposer shall guarantee that all contents of their proposal be valid for a period of 60 days from the due date of proposals.

A Site Visit is encouraged in order for proposers to familiarize themselves of the type of equipment needed and to ensure that the project surrounding does not inconvenient the project requirement. Proposers are requested to contact Mr. Rodney James Taisacan at telephone numbers 664-3550 or 664-3552 during working hours from Monday to Thursday (Friday is austerity day).

Questions and/or clarification regarding this RFP shall be directed to: Alex C. Tudela, Procurement Officer by written notice or email at atudela@cnmiports.com before 2:00 p.m. October 19, 2020. All responses shall be in the form of written addenda which will be a requirement in the RFP submission.

Proposers are to submit one (1) original and two (2) copies of their proposal to the Office of the Executive Director no later than 4:00 P.M. (CHST) November 02, 2020.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this RFP; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects of said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES F0197
ATTORNEY AT LAW
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749
E mail: robert.torres@rttlawgroup.com

Attorney for Petitioner Bertha C. Leon Guerrero,

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARCELINO DLG. CAMACHO Deceased.	**Civil Action No. 20-0117** **NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE PETITION FOR FINAL DISTRIBUTION**

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE WENDY MARCELINO DLG. CAMACHO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **BERTHA C. LEON GUERRERO,** Petitioner of the Estate of Marcelino DLG. Camacho, has filed with the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands a **Petition for Final Decree of Distribution.** The attorney for the **Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758 CK, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition for Final Decree of Distribution has been set for the **8th day of the October at 10:00 a.m.** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. All Interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Date this 29th day of September 2020.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (1-670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, October 08, 2020, at 2:30 p.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom at the Airport Fire Station at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Orde
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (August 27, 2020)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

III. CORRESPONDENCES

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. Financial Affairs Committee
2. Airport Facilities Committees
3. Seaport Facilities Committee
4. Personnel Affairs Committee

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VI. OLD BUSINESS
1. Lease: United Cargo Facility
2. Hazardous Pay

VII. NEW BUSINESS
1. Rota West Harbor Small Boat Marina
2. Job Vacancy Announcement: Replacement of Assistant Chief for ARFF/Ports Police (Rota)
3. Supplemental Budget Request: Saipan Airport HAZMAT Bunker
4. Supplemental Budget Request: Saipan Airport Power Plant Roof Repair
5. Accounts Receivable – Seaport
6. POI Ground Handling Permit – Request for Renewal

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- Legal Counsel Reports: Legal matters/Litigation

IX. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
X. ADJOURNMENT

Tune in online as we stream live on the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Facebook page. Written testimony on the agenda items must be sent via email before the meeting to cpa.admin@pticom.com. Attendees (in person) must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Kimberlyn King-Hinds
Chairwoman, Board of Directors

October 01, 2020

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

(This is ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

NMHC IFB 2021-001

BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME: November 05, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

Purchase and Installation of Lighting Fixtures for the Oleai Track and Field Facility

Project package will be available on October 2nd, 2020, at the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net.

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held via video teleconferencing on October 16, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom Video Communications. Bidders will be provided the video teleconferencing link on the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net. Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/
Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

/s/
Frank Lee S.N. Borja
Acting-Chairman,
NMHC Board of Directors

CHCC to help PSS train young people as outreach workers

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With the high demand for nurses for its health screening needs, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. plans to train young people to do the work of a health outreach worker in the Public School System.

Tim Thornburgh, PSS Federal Programs manager, said that they had a conference call with CHCC CEO Esther Muña, who suggested that PSS should hire young people, and that CHCC will help PSS train these young people, who will serve as outreach workers and will be stationed in schools.

Using the Education Stabilization Fund it got from the federal government, PSS has set aside $550,000 to hire 22 part-time nurses for 10 months, to be deployed for each public school and take charge of health screening procedures like checking for temperatures. The problem, though, is that PSS has been having a hard time hiring nurses, and Thornburgh said in previous board meetings that no nurses have been applying for the position.

Dr. Yvonne Pangelinan, PSS senior director, said that they opened two requests for proposals for nurses but no one responded to their RFPs, and it appears there are not enough nurses on the islands.

Board of Education member Marylou Ada insists that PSS should hire nurses because children are also vulnerable to COVID-19.

BOE member Andrew Orsini believes it is not possible to have a nurse in each school, so he suggests hiring only a few full-time nurses and giving them several schools assignment to visit.

According to Pangelinan, they might have a better chance of hiring outreach workers, who can take students, teachers, and school staff's temperatures. She added that they don't need experienced nurses to take temperatures. The young people they are looking to hire will serve as a gatekeeper of the schools. Pangelinan said that they don't need to have a nursing degree or experience to ensure everyone follows COVID-19 safety precautions.

Court dismisses tourist's suit vs DOL

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has dismissed the lawsuit filed by a Russian tourist against the CNMI Department of Labor for lack of jurisdiction.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Mangloña dismissed the complaint of Denis Uvarov, who had asked the federal court to intervene in a labor complaint he filed that was dismissed by CNMI DOL.

Mangloña said in her ruling that even if the court considers the exhibits attached to Uvarov's complaint regarding nonpayment of wages, the amount in dispute does not appear anywhere near the threshold amount of over $75,000 required for jurisdiction.

Not only that but Uvarov's complaint was explained in Russian with a few English words, Mangloña added. "The court cannot read Russian. Neither is it required to do so and generally requires that filings at the minimum include an English translation," Mangloña stated. If Uvarov wishes to amend his complaint, he must do so in English.

Failure to file an amended complaint within 14 days will result in the closure of this case.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Uvarov claims his employer owes him 166 hours in unpaid wages. DOL dismissed his appeal for lack of jurisdiction.

CNMI DOL also noted that Uvarov is neither a U.S. citizen, a CNMI permanent resident, a foreign national worker, nor a worker possessing some other non-immigrant status.

Uvarov came to the CNMI as a tourist. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

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NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI) is soliciting proposals for Single Audit of financial and compliance audit for fiscal year ending **September 30, 2020**. NMPASI is designated, federally funded protection and advocacy system for persons with disabilities in the CNMI. NMPASI uses a variety of individual and systems advocacy approaches to protect people's rights, including legal and administrative remedies, legislative, policy change and trainings. Proposals for the financial and compliance audit shall be submitted to NMPASI, P.O. Box 503529, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than November 16, 2020. The audit shall be performed in compliance with the following guidelines:

1. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards;
2. OMB Circular A-133; and
3. Compliance with the general Requirements Applicable to Federal Financial Assistance Program.

Award will be based on specific factor such as prior experience, technical competence, ability to meet the deadline and price in this order. The contract for this audit will be awarded no later than **November 30,2020**, and a final audit report shall be completed by **March 15, 2021**. A list of specific audit requirements and Agency's profile are available at NMPASI office, Gualo Rai. Any questions regarding this matter can be addressed to Mr. James Rayphand, Executive Director at (670) 235-7273/4 (voice) or email at jrayphand@nmpasi.org.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (1-670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cnmiports.com

NOTICE OF BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that there will Board Committee Meetings on Thursday, October 08, 2020, beginning 9:30 a.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom at the Airport Fire Station, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan.

AGENDA

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (August 27, 2020)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business: None.
IV. New Business:
1. Supplemental Budget: Saipan Airport Hazmat Bunker
2. Supplemental Budget: Saipan Airport Power Plant Roof Repair
3. Accounts Receivable: Seaport
4. Updated Committee Report
V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII. Adjournment

AIRPORT FACILITIES COMMITTEE

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (August 27, 2020)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business:
1. Solar updates
2. Mobil
3. Lease: United Cargo Facility
4. Power Plants 2 (Rota) and 3 (Saipan)
IV. New Business:
1. POI Ground Handling Permit – Request for Renewal
2. Updated Committee Report
V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII. Adjournment

PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (August 27, 2020)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business: None.
1. Hazardous Pay
IV. New Business:
1. Job Vacancy Announcement: Replacement of Assistant Chief of ARFF/Ports Police (Rota)
2. Updated Committee Report
V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII. Adjournment

SEAPORT FACILITIES COMMITTEE

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (August 27, 2020)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business:
1. Tinian Marine Stevedore
2. Saipan Stevedore Lease
3. Bridge Investment Group
IV. New Business:
1. Rota West Harbor Small Boat Marina
2. Port of Saipan Dredging
3. Updated Committee Report
V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII. Adjournment

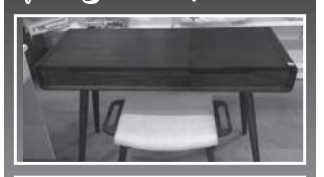
Tune in online as we stream live on the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Facebook page. Written testimony on the agenda items must be sent via email before the meeting to cpa.admin@pticom.com. Attendees (in person) must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Barrie C. Toves, Airport Facilities Chair | Ramon A. Tebuteb, Financial Affairs Chair | Pete P. Reyes, Seaport Facilities Chair | Joseph M. Diaz, Personnel Affairs Chair

GUANGDONG HARDWARE
Never satisfied until you are

NEW ARRIVAL
LAVATORY FAUCET, MIRROR, GARDEN TOOLS, G.I. PIPES, SQUARE TUBES, SHORING JACK PIPE, ROOFING TIN & MANY MORE
ABS, CPVC, PVC, CONDUIT PIPES & FITTINGS ARE ALL MADE IN USA
ELECTRICAL TOOLS, WATER HEATER & WINDOWS

NEW ARRIVAL
Furniture

Make a Difference for Your House!


NEW ARRIVALS!
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Another grim milestone: Global COVID deaths hit 1 million

COVID-19 officially claimed its millionth victim on Monday, according to Johns Hopkins University.

In reality, that grim milestone was likely reached months ago. Most global health officials believe the death toll has been undercounted in countless countries—including the U.S.

The coronavirus does not stop at national borders. In fact, it's aided by the internationalism that defines modern life.

That global interconnectivity could be better harnessed to mitigate the pandemic's impact. But predictable and lamentable divisions diminish a coordinated global approach.

Naked nationalism manifests itself in disunity over COVID at the United Nations and other international institutions, as well as in the U.S. pulling out of the World Health Organization—splits that may be particularly pernicious when a proven vaccine arrives and geopolitics infect an efficient, effective and fair distribution process.

Some countries have been considerably more successful in mitigation.

Their formula isn't hidden, even if others don't seem to see it (or willfully ignore it): testing, tracing, distancing—even quarantining—and masking on a mass and rapid scale, with an abundant trust in science and governance.

However, many developing nations aren't equipped to deliver on this formula. Many developed nations are, but have chosen not to, unconscionably undermining science and politicizing an apolitical pathogen.

This includes the United States, whose scientific advancements and governance models much of the rest of the world used to envy and emulate. But the country has convulsed into an inconsistent and often incoherent approach to the virus and recently passed its own tragic toll of 200,000 COVID deaths, or about one-fifth of the official count.

The global death toll is surpassed by the number of COVID-19 infections, some of which have left survivors with ongoing health challenges. Those ranks increasingly include children.

Even those kids who've stayed healthy have faced educational disruptions that are setbacks in developed nations but life-changing in developing countries. Many children are forced into fields or factories or even illegal activities to help feed their families. And when they can't get work, their families don't eat.

"The whole ecosystem around kids is breaking down," Nahida Ismail, an Indian teacher, told The New York Times in a searing report on the unrelenting catastrophe facing many of the world's children.

The entire system that's supposed to prevent educational, economic and health catastrophes is breaking down, too.

See ANOTHER on Next Page

Presidential debate was a contest of blown opportunities

By CLARENCE PAGE
Chicago Tribune

Clarence Page is a member of the Chicago Tribune *Editorial Board. Readers may send him email at cpage@tribune.com.*

My wife was the first to go.

She stood up and made a beeline for bed after about 10 minutes.

Next to go was our millennial son. He lasted about 20 minutes before fleeing to the friendly confines of social media.

That left me, as usual, loyal to my sacred duty as a journo who, to paraphrase an old movie critic's ad, suffers through the bad debates so that you, dear voters, don't have to.

Who won the first and long-awaited presidential debate between President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden?

Usually I hate to be asked that question after a political campaign debate. Too many people have too many different ideas about what constitutes a "win."

Nevertheless, my verdict as to who won this debate, which quickly degraded into a raucous debacle that made my family flee, seemed quite clear: The people did not.

But it was a happy night for the Proud Boys.

Yes, as the world now knows, that far-right ragtag group, labeled by the Southern Poverty Law Center and Anti-Defamation League as a hate group that endorses violence, came up when Trump and Biden were asked if they were willing to condemn white supremacists and paramilitary groups.

"Give me a name. Give me a name," Trump said. Biden mentioned the Proud Boys. Instead of a straightforward repudiation, Trump curiously barked toward the cameras, "Proud Boys, stand back and stand by."

Then he quickly added, "But I'll tell you what, somebody's got to do something about antifa and the left because this is not a right-wing problem. This is a left-wing problem

Biden condemned violence and hate groups on the right and left. But Trump's waffling about the Proud Boys sparked more headlines and social media chatter, along with a huge surge in Google searches. Before midnight, a new pseudo-military Proud Boys logo appeared online featuring "Stand Back, Stand By" like a new warriors' slogan.

Yet Jason Miller, a senior Trump campaign adviser, said it was "very clear he wants them to knock it off." To him, maybe. Most people, including me, seemed to hear quite the opposite coming from the president's mouth.

That includes the Boys themselves who, judging by their web traffic, felt quite a bit prouder to be name-checked by the prez himself.

By Wednesday, Trump tried to walk it back, saying the Proud Boys should "stand down" and "let law enforcement do their work."

All in a night's work for a president who spent the evening in full Captain Chaos mode. He constantly interrupted Biden, ignored time limits, digressed away from the point of questions and talked over attempts by moderator Chris Wallace of Fox News to impose order.

In short, it was an evening of blown opportunities.

After weeks of remarkable stability in the polls showing Biden clearly ahead nationally, although by tighter margins in the battleground states, it was one of the last big opportunities before November for both candidates to make their closing arguments.

For Biden, this was an opportunity to shore up his lead, which remains soft enough among the relatively few remaining persuadable voters to make his stronger supporters nervous.

He needed to show that, contrary to the Grand Old Party's mythology, the former vice president is not too old to handle a 90-minute debate without collapsing into a babbling buffoon.

Instead, his confidence began to visibly firm up after he began to break the usual norms of civility by telling his yammering opponent to simply "Shut up!"

Trump should have listened. He needed this night more than Biden did. He wasn't speaking to an arena full of his loyal Trumpists. Instead, this was his chance to broaden his appeal to the persuadables who haven't yet made up their minds. He offered little to reassure them—and a lot with which to insult their intelligence.

Instead he sounded like a junior high school kid who hadn't done his homework but still thinks he can BS his way through an oral exam. He even lapsed, as he has before, into blaming Biden

See PRESIDENTIAL on Next Page

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The danger in postponing cancer screenings during the pandemic

By CARYN LERMAN
Los Angeles Times

Caryn Lerman is director of the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, part of Keck Medicine of USC. She also is the associate dean for cancer programs at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a distressing downturn has occurred—cancer screenings dramatically decreased across the country. Early detection of cancer can improve the chances of survival. By delaying screening, patients are also delaying treatment and putting their health at risk.

Not surprisingly, with the disruption in routine cancer screenings, new cancer diagnoses have also decreased. Research published in an American Medical Association online journal showed that the average weekly number of new diagnoses of six common cancers—breast, colorectal, lung, gastric, pancreatic and esophageal—fell by more than 45% from March to mid-April compared with the previous two months.

In mid-June, weekly screening volumes for breast, colon and cervical cancer were as much as 36% lower than their pre-COVID-19 levels, according to a July report by the Epic Health Research Network.

While research suggests that screening rates for some cancers may be on the rebound, the hesitancy to undergo cancer screening is extremely concerning from a public health perspective. Many localized cancers are curable with surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, immunotherapy or a combination of these. But patients need to know they need treatment.

According to the director of the National Cancer Institute, we may see as many as 10,000 additional deaths from breast and colorectal cancer alone over the next decade because people failed to get screened and therefore treated for it during the pandemic. Cancer mortality rates have been falling in recent years. COVID-19 could reverse this trend.

When the pandemic first hit the U.S. early this year, patients were asked to stay home and postpone routine medical care. However, most hospitals have resumed routine business and have procedures in place to protect patient safety, including making face coverings mandatory and stationing health care personnel at entrances to screen for symptoms of COVID-19.

With such precautions in place, people should feel more comfortable adhering to their recommended cancer-screening schedules. While it is completely understandable that some people may be worried about returning to a health care setting, postponing recommended preventive health measures may be far more dangerous.

For certain visits, patients can use telemedicine, which has grown in use during the pandemic, replacing some in-person office visits. However, for cancer screenings that require the use of specialized equipment, such as mammograms or colonoscopies, remote testing obviously is not an option.

Hospitals and clinics nationwide are reinforcing the message that cancer doesn't stop for the coronavirus, as are organizations such as the American Cancer Society. Keck Medicine of USC is also part of a coalition of six of Los Angeles County's largest nonprofit health systems that are participating in a public health campaign to urge the public to get the health care they need despite their fears of the coronavirus.

At USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, part of Keck Medicine, we are reaching out to our patients, emphasizing the many precautions we've put into place to protect their health, such as mask wearing, social distancing and frequent sanitizing of surfaces. In an attempt to ease patients' minds, we created videos in four languages—English, Spanish, Mandarin and Korean—and had oncologists address concerns that patients may have about cancer screenings or treatments during the pandemic. The videos were emailed to patients and are available on our website.

Our community hospital, USC Verdugo Hills Hospital, is also offering discounted mammograms through October, Breast Cancer Awareness month, which may help those who have lost their jobs—and, as a result, their health insurance—during the pandemic.

In the age of COVID-19, it's important for people to make, and keep, their cancer screening appointments. The coronavirus is not going away any time soon—and neither is cancer.

PRESIDENTIAL

From Page 8

for problems of crime, violence and the COVID-19 pandemic as if somebody besides Trump has been president for the past nearly four years.

In the end, the biggest question of the evening seemed not to be about the pandemic or antifa but whether there's any hope for the remaining two scheduled presidential debates. I have considered numerous suggestions for improvement, including a large gavel for the moderator, a referee's whistle and isolation booths to silence the long-winded.

However they may be conducted, I believe debates do us more good than harm. When candidates abuse the privilege, that's on them.

As noted historian Jon Meacham observed in a post-debate panel, "It's not just the candidates on the ballot, we are." Indeed, we are. Our Election Day choices are a reflection of all of us. We need to be informed, not driven to the exits.

ANOTHER

From Page 8

Nations that perceive themselves as exceptional, like the U.S., should lead the way with a vigorous virus response driven by scientific and governing rationality.

"Responsible leadership matters," U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres said on Monday as he urged the world to "learn from the mistakes. Science matters. Cooperation matters—and misinformation kills."

The victims include mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, sons and daughters, friends and co-workers. Every death is a tragedy, and every effort must be made to not add to the grim, and growing, count.

(c) 2020 *Star Tribune* (Minneapolis)

The unscientific attack on the science of Dr. Scott Atlas

By VICTOR DAVIS HANSON
Tribune News Service

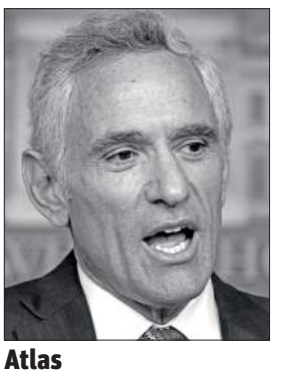
Victor Davis Hanson is a classicist and historian at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, and the author of The Second World Wars: How the First Global Conflict Was Fought and Won*, from Basic Books. You can reach him by emailing authorvdh@gmail.com.*

The news media until recently had rarely criticized the medical advice of experts—especially those who worked for federal bureaucracies, international organizations or elite universities.

Yet the much-praised Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director-general of the World Health Organization, has demonstrably weakened the effort to fight COVID-19.

During the critical initial weeks of the virus' spread, Tedros parroted Chinese propaganda. He falsely assured a complacent world that the virus was likely not transmissible between humans and did not warrant travel bans. That Tedros was the first WHO director not to have a medical degree was seldom cited by the media.

Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel is known to the public for his past advocacy of the Obama administration's Affordable Care Act. Although he now advises 77-year-old presidential candidate Joe Biden, Emanuel once wrote an article for The Atlantic titled "Why I hope to die at 75," contending that that life after age 75 is, and should be, mostly over—now an eerie idea in a time of a pandemic that targets the elderly.



Atlas

Emanuel has often weighed in on the COVID-19 pandemic, sometimes in overly pessimistic fashion by suggesting that some acquired collective immunity and a viable vaccine were not likely to come soon.

Yet Emanuel also has been largely exempt from media criticism. No reporters have questioned his epidemiological expertise despite his background as an oncologist specializing in breast cancer.

The esteemed Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has given conflicting advice on the use of masks, quarantining and the methods of viral transmission. Yet such inconsistency is either ignored or chalked up by the media to the usual learning curve of dealing with a new epidemic.

So why—other than politics—is there now a concerted media attack on Dr. Scott Atlas, an adviser to the Trump administration on COVID-19 policy?

Atlas has had a distinguished career as one of world's top neuroradiologists. He has become a national expert on public health policy, especially in the cost-benefit analysis of government programs.

After COVID-19 arrived in the U.S., Atlas consistently warned that government must follow science, not politics, in doing the least amount of harm to its people. He has reminded us that those under 65 rarely die from COVID-19, and that those infected who are younger than 20 usually do not show any serious symptoms.

Accordingly, Atlas has urged the states to focus more resources on the most vulnerable—those over 65, who account for the vast majority of COVID-19 deaths—and allow younger Americans to reenter schools and the workforce with appropriate caution.

Atlas has also warned that the available test data on COVID-19's infectiousness, spread and morbidity must be handled with care, given that those who feel sick are more like to get tested. He argues that those with some natural protection from the virus, either through antibodies from an asymptotic past infection or through T-cells, may be a far larger group than previously thought.

But most importantly, Atlas has warned that government must be careful not to endanger Americans with draconian lockdowns that curtail needed medical examinations, procedures and treatments.

Just as dangerous as the disease may be quarantine-related spikes in mental illness, substance abuse, child and spousal abuse, and depression from lost livelihoods. Children may be suffering irreparable harm from being locked down and kept out of school.

Atlas has shown that these policy choices unfortunately entail bad options and even worse ones, rather than good choices and even better alternatives. He has not played down the dangers of COVID-19 but rather has reminded us to look at scientific data that often belies media sensationalism.

Many in the media, some of his former colleagues at Stanford Medical School and some other Stanford faculty members have claimed that Atlas—a colleague of mine at the Hoover Institution—has acted unprofessionally. They allege that he has downplayed the lethality of the virus, implying that he is aiding the administration's efforts to ease out of the quarantine.

Yet few if any of these complainants have cited supporting evidence, either from what Atlas has written or said. Often the accusations turn puerile, suggesting that Atlas can't be a public health expert because he was originally a neuroradiologist.

In fact, rarely reported is that many members of the Stanford community are honored by its medical school receiving global acclaim for its diversity of expert scientific opinion on the virus.

Nobel Prize-winning biophysicist Michael Levitt of Stanford, along with several stellar Stanford epidemiologists, have been praised worldwide for their careful critiques of often media-generated misconceptions—especially on the overreliance on COVID-19 positive test data to calibrate viral prevalence and morbidly.

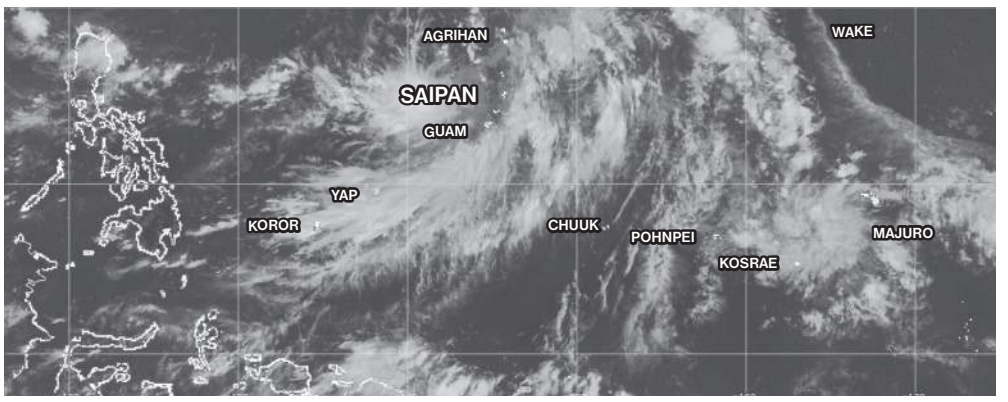
How ironic that some critics fault Atlas for not following science, but they do so in a fashion that is completely ... well, unscientific.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly sunny. Numerous locally heavy showers and isolated thunderstorms in the morning, then scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.
86º / 76º	86º / 76º	87º / 77º	87º / 77º	87º / 77º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 11:50 AM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The monsoon trough located to the west of the Marianas has decreased in coverage and intensity. Because of this there will be more sunshine and less rain across the area today. This system is still expected to impact the Marianas tonight, with scattered showers near sunset becoming numerous overnight.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 78°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 78°
Majuro	Mostly Sunny	86° / 80°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:05 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:04 PM
Sunday	6:07 AM	6:04 PM
Monday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Tuesday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	6:11 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	-	6:57 AM	7:06 PM
Sunday	-	7:43 AM	7:42 PM
Monday	-	8:30 AM	8:19 PM
Tuesday	-	9:19 AM	9:00 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	61° / 55°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	72° / 48°
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	88° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°
London	Mostly Sunny	61° / 46°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	75° / 60°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	75° / 55°
Miami	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
New York	Sunny	72° / 57°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	70° / 57°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	63° / 46°
Busan	Cloudy	68° / 63°
Rome	Cloudy	73° / 59°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	82° / 62°
San Francisco	Sunny	67° / 52°
Seoul	Cloudy	70° / 54°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	70° / 55°
Washington, DC	Sunny	76° / 56°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:03 AM	LOW TIDE	0.54
7:48 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.77
2:09 PM	LOW TIDE	0.45
8:03 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.79

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
  - ❏ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
  - ❏ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are available, use an alcohol-based sanitizer.
  - ❏ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - ❏ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:30am	8:10am	1, 4
UA117	7:50am	8:30am	6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:30am	9:10pm	1 via Guam

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	7:25pm	9:10pm	1 via Guam
UA183	9:05pm	10:50pm	5 via Guam

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:50am	6:31am	1, 4
UA174	6:15am	6:56am	6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	11:45pm	6:56am+1	5 via Guam

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25pm	4:25am+1	1 via Guam
UA184	11:45pm	5:33am+1	5 via Guam

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301.2	8:30AM	9:00AM	Tues/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101.2	9:30AM	10:00AM	Tues/Fri
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

US Marine Corps activates its Guam base camp

The U.S. Marine Corps activated yesterday its newest camp in Guam, to be called Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz, to where approximately 5,000 Marines from Okinawa, Japan will begin relocating to in the first half of the 2020s.

The activation is an administrative action officially marking the initial operational capability of the base.

This was the first new Marine Corps base activated since March 1, 1952, with the commissioning of what is presently Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Georgia. The Marine Corps plans to hold an activation ceremony for its newest base in spring 2021.

Marines from the III Marine Expeditionary Force will soon begin relocating from Okinawa to the new camp.

MCB Camp Blaz is named in honor of the late Brig. Gen. Vicente "Ben" Tomas Garrido Blaz, the first Chamorro Marine to attain the rank of general officer. Following his 29-year Marine Corps career, Blaz went on to serve as Guam's delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives for four consecutive terms. Blaz' legacy reflects the strong relationship that the Marine Corps and the people of Guam have shared since the establishment of the Marine Barracks in 1899.

U.S. Marines and personnel assigned to Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz observe the first flag-raising of the new command, marking the initial operation capability of the base in Dededo, Guam, Oct. 1, 2020.
U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. ANDREW KING

"As the Marine Corps presence on Guam grows, I am confident that we will live up to our motto of honor, courage, and commitment—we will honor the history of the island of Guam, we will have the courage to defend it, and we will remain committed to preserving its cultural and environmental resources," said Col. Bradley M. Magrath, the first base commander of MCB Camp Blaz.

Born on Guam on Feb. 14, 1928, Blaz was 13 years old when the island was attacked by Imperial Japanese forces on Dec. 8, 1941. He remained in Guam throughout the Japanese occupation until Liberation in July 1944. In 1947, Blaz was awarded a scholarship to the University of Notre Dame and was subsequently commissioned in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1951. During his honorable and faithful service including a combat tour in Vietnam, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" for valor, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2), and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

After his Marine Corps career, Blaz was elected to represent Guam as a delegate in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1984 through 1992. While representing Guam, he was instrumental in reorganizing Guam's judicial system and advocated for improved educational benefits for veterans. He was an accomplished author whose notable memoir, *Let Us Remember*, captured the hardships and determination of the Chamorro people during the Japanese occupation in World War II. Blaz died on Jan. 8, 2014, having led a life of selfless public service to his nation and to the island of Guam. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

The formal establishment of MCB Camp Blaz is a significant milestone of the realignment of forces and honors an international agreement with the government of Japan while securing a Marine Corps posture in the Indo-Pacific region that is geographically distributed and operationally resilient. MCB Camp Blaz will play an essential role in strengthening the Department of Defense's ability to deter and defend, and is also a testament to the strength of the U.S.-Japan alliance, which is a cornerstone of peace, security, and prosperity in the region. ***(PR)***

FBI seeks public's help to ID man

The FBI is seeking the public's assistance with obtaining identifying information regarding an unknown male who may have critical information pertaining to the identity of a child victim in an ongoing sexual exploitation investigation.

Photographs and an informational poster depicting the unknown individual, known only as John Doe 42, are being disseminated to the public. This is a national request for assistance, there is no evidence to believe that this individual is located in Guam or the CNMI.

John Doe 42

Initial video of the unidentified male, John Doe 42, shown with a child, were first recorded by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children in August 2019. The EXIF data embedded within the video files indicated that the files were produced in October 2015.

John Doe 42 is described as a white male with gray hair and wearing a red and black plaid shirt. He is heard speaking English in the video. Due to the age of the images, it is possible that the individual's appearance may have changed over the years.

Anyone with information to provide should submit a tip online at tips.fbi.gov, or call the FBI's toll-free tip line at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324). The public is reminded no charges have been filed in this case, and the pictured individual is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law. You can also reach out to the Honolulu Field Office at 808-566-4300.

This individual is being sought as part of the FBI's Operation Rescue Me and Endangered Child Alert Program initiatives, both of which represent strategic partnerships between the FBI and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. Operation Rescue Me focuses on using clues obtained through in-depth image analysis to identify the child victims depicted in child exploitation material, while ECAP seeks national and international media exposure of unknown adults (referred to as John/Jane Does) who visibly display their faces and/or other distinguishing characteristics in association with child pornography images. ***(PR)***

NBG to take part in Citadel Pacific exercise

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam will participate in Exercise Citadel Pacific 2020 that will take place on Oct. 5–9.

This annual exercise is designed to enhance the training, readiness and capability of security forces to respond to threats to Department of Defense installations and units. CP-20 is not in response to any specific threat, but is a regularly scheduled training exercise.

Measures have been taken to minimize disruptions to normal base operations, but there may be times when exercise events cause increased traffic around the installation or occasional delays in base access. Area residents may also see increased security force activity associated with the exercise.

As part of the exercise, the Giant Voice public address systems at NBG installations will be activated, and residents in surrounding areas will hear exercise announcements regarding force protection conditions throughout the week. The use of the GV system adds realism to the exercise.

Periodic training exercises support security force readiness and are critical to developing the skills needed to support operational missions throughout the region to ensure a stable, free, and open Indo-Pacific. ***(PR)***

NMC to host events for 40th anniversary

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Even though COVID-19 has postponed many events this year, the Northern Marianas College will be celebrating a milestone this year—the commemoration of the institution's 40th anniversary.

Speaking at a recent Board of Regents meeting, NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico said the commemoration of NMC's 40th anniversary will be stretched out to a year's worth of activities. According to Eliptico, they will be having activities that are large- and small-scaled throughout the whole year. These include a golf tournament, a distinguished alumnus and distinguished employee ceremonies, fishing derby, etc.

"We plan to engage all stakeholders, and we're excited about it and [we] are going to use the opportunity to boost our spirits, our morale, [and] our team in preparing for 40 more years of college," said Eliptico.

With the Legislature still yet to pass a fiscal year 2021 budget bill, regent Jesus M. Tudela questioned if NMC will fork up the funds for all activities. According to Eliptico, most of the activities will be fundraising events.

Eliptico stated that they want to be sure that activities won't be "an additional burden financially." The golf tournament will be the first of the fundraising event, followed by other fundraisers that will raise money for the college.

For example, activities will include small events like an employee-only softball tournament and a larger event like concerts or a fishing derby. Additionally, Eliptico will ask board members to pitch in with planning and outreach programs.

Llaneta tapped to lead ESGR Guam-CNMI Committee

Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Renie Llaneta has been appointed the State Chair of the Guam-CNMI State Committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. He is the sixth State Chair to serve since 1997. His three-year term began yesterday, Oct. 1. Llaneta's appointment was confirmed by U.S. Navy Capt. Robert L. Underhill, Jr., executive director, headquarters, ESGR, Washington, D.C.

Llaneta took the committee's helm last Wednesday from Donald Clark, who served as State Chair since 2017, during a change of responsibility ceremony.

In his capacity as State Chair, Llaneta will act as the personal representative of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs and of the ESGR National Chair in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

ESGR is a U.S. Department of Defense program established in 1972 under the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower Reserve Affairs. ESGR's mission is to foster a culture where employers value the service of their employees serving in the National Guard and Reserve.

There are 54 ESGR committees with over 3,600 volunteers serving in the U.S. and its territories, except American Samoa.

Llaneta will be responsible for promoting the cooperation and understanding between employers and their service member employees by advocating relevant initiatives, recognizing outstanding employer support of our National Guard and Reserve, increasing awareness of applicable laws protecting the rights and entitlements of service member employees, and resolving conflicts that may arise between them.

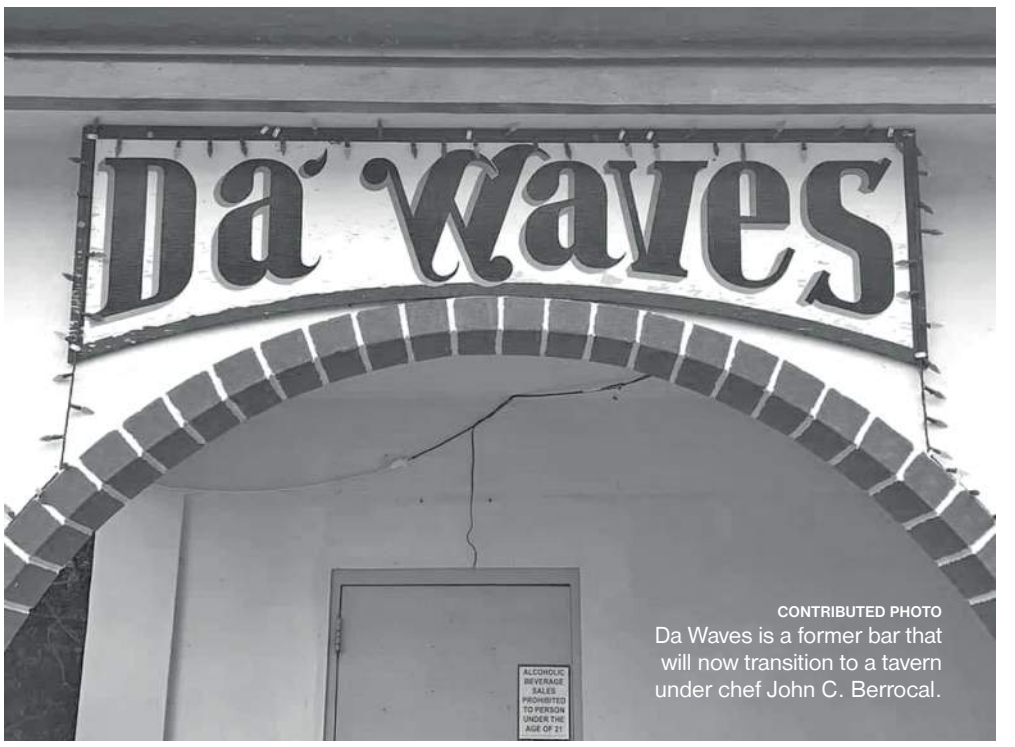
Llaneta is a 28-year veteran of the U.S. Army and Guam Army National Guard where he served in command and staff assignments in Europe, Central America, Southwest Asia and the Pacific. He has been an ESGR volunteer since 2010 and previously served as the Employer Outreach Director for the local committee. ***(PR)***

Business

Da Waves transforms to tavern

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Following guidelines set by the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, Da Waves' occupancy currently is only for 45 people.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Da Waves for now will serve 14-inch pizzas as well as burgers and Italo-Peruvian tapas.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Da Waves is a former bar that will now transition to a tavern under chef John C. Berrocal.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Chef John C. Berrocal has relocated to Rota and plans to renovate an old watering hole into a cozy tavern where island residents can put their feet up and relax after a full day's work.

Berrocal, a graduate of Le Cordon Bleu culinary school in Paris, France, said he has taken over Da Waves in the southernmost island of the Northern Marianas chain and has big plans to make the former bar into the place-to-be on Rota.

"I chose Rota because of the water and the readily available fresh ingredients. People are also very friendly, self-sufficient, and respect Mother Nature so I love it," said Berrocal, who used to run Roque's Tavern and Infino on Saipan.

Berrocal said he wants to transform Da Waves into a beautiful tavern where you can have good food and good beer and wine, while kicking back with a game of pool. The ocean view from the backyard of the old bar is also nothing to sneeze at.

"I will be serving for now just pizzas, some burgers, Italo-Peruvian tapas, good wines, and beers. Da Waves has been there for long time and it's in a nice location. It used to be a bar with pool tables and karaoke. It was named after the ocean waves right behind the restaurant," he said.

Da Waves' 14-inch pizzas come in margarita (tomato sauce, basil, mozzarella cheese, garlic, parmesan cheese), classica (pepperoni, tomato sauce, mozzarella cheese, parmesan cheese), suprema (mushrooms, peppers, onions, bolognese meat sauce, tomato sauce, black olives, garlic, pepperoni, mozzarella cheese, parmesan cheese), and barbecue (Italian grilled chicken, house-made barbecue sauce, tomato sauce, mozzarella cheese, parmesan cheese, oregano).

The burgers come in five variants—Classic American, Pikka Burger, Manok Burger, and Da Waves Burger—and all include oregano parmesan fries.

"All of our beef patties are made with Angus beef and our pizzas are cooked with extra virgin olive oil, homemade tomato sauces, and freshly made dough," said Berrocal.

Right now, due to guidelines issued by the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, Da Waves' occupancy is 45 people and when it finally opens, the tavern will be open seven days a week from 11am to 10pm.

Berrocal, who also recently came back from Paris to brush up on new French culinary techniques, said that, aside from remaking Da Waves into a tavern, he is also looking at creating a culinary school on Rota.

American Airlines to furlough 19K as clock runs out on airlines

American Airlines will begin furloughing 19,000 employees on Thursday after lawmakers and the White House failed to agree on a broad pandemic-relief package that includes more federal aid for airlines.

CEO Doug Parker said Wednesday night that if Washington comes up with a deal for $25 billion in airline aid "over the next few days," American will reverse the furloughs and recall the employees.

The move by American represents the first—and likely the largest—involuntary jobs cut across the industry in coming days. United Airlines has indicated it could furlough nearly 12,000 workers.

Airline employees and executives made 11th-hour appeals this week to Congress and the Trump administration to avert furloughs when a federal prohibition on layoffs—a condition of an earlier round of federal aid—expires Thursday.

The passenger airlines and their labor unions are lobbying for taxpayer money to pay workers for six more months, through next March. Their request is tied up in stalled negotiations over a larger pandemic-relief measure.

Industry officials acknowledged that prospects were bleak for action before Thursday's deadline. They said, however, they were cheered that the House this week included airline payroll help in a $2.2 trillion relief plan that moved closer to Republicans' preference for a lower price tag.

"It provides a glimmer of hope that something will get done," said Nicholas Calio, president of the trade group Airlines for America.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said Wednesday night that the administration wants to help hotels, airlines and schools. He said he was talking with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi but hinted that the White House doesn't want to go above about $1.5 trillion—$700 million below the House Democrats' figure.

"I don't think we're going to make significant progress" until Thursday, he said on Fox Business.

Calio suggested that Thursday might not be a hard deadline—airlines could reverse some furloughs if a deal between the White House and congressional Democrats appeared imminent.

"Ideally, if it's going to go beyond Thursday they will be close to a deal and say, 'Hang on for a couple days,' and we can wait," he said. "Beyond that, the notices have gone and furloughs will go into effect." ***(AP)***

Matson's Valencia puts Guam on the map by receiving award

GUAM—*Supply & Demand Chain Executive Magazine* has recently announced that Bernadette "Bernie" Valencia, Matson vice president and general manager for Guam and Micronesia, has been recognized as one of its inaugural Women in Supply Chain Award winners. The Women in Supply Chain Award honors female supply chain leaders and executives from around the world whose accomplishments, mentorship, and examples set a foundation for women in all levels of a company's supply chain network.

Supply & Demand Chain Executive, the only magazine in the supply chain industry covering the entire global supply chain that focuses on ROI, professional development, and change management, celebrates its 20-year anniversary with the introduction of a new award designed specifically for women leaders in the supply chain industry.

"We received over 300 entries for this new award, entries that were submitted from a combination of men and women. This proves that our industry needed an award like this, especially in conjunction with Supply & Demand Chain Executive's 20-year anniversary," says Marina Mayer, editor-in-chief of *Supply & Demand Chain Executive* and *Food Logistics*.

Valencia said, "I appreciate the SDCE for establishing this award to recognize the contributions of women in the shipping and supply chain industries and creating awareness that these industries welcome and need more female professionals. Congratulations to Bindiya Vakil, the SDCE's Woman of the Year, and my fellow award winners throughout the globe. I am fortunate to have been able to grow my career with a wonderful organization such as Matson, and I hope to see more women from our region consider careers in shipping and supply chain management."

Valencia

Mayer added, "According to Gartner's 2020 Women in Supply Chain Survey, 17% of chief supply chain officers are now women—a 6% increase compared to 2019. It represents growth, evolution, and community. And, that future shows that it's a great time to be a part of the supply chain industry. So, congratulations to these top female leaders. I look forward to seeing what else you do to grow the supply chain industry."

Valencia was recognized for her work in the Western Pacific and Micronesia regions, which includes Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Okinawa, Japan. Valencia helped to establish the Okinawa route, Matson's newest service route, in 2017. Her team's excellent on-time service record and Matson's commitment to the region and the communities they serve for almost 25 years gained a mention in the magazine.

The SDCE specifically recognizes Valencia's work at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and the company's work to reassure residents in Guam and Micronesia that their weekly shipment of goods would continue, uninterrupted and on-time. This public service campaign is recognized as helping to reduce panic buying and placing the well-being of the island's residents as a top priority.

Valencia noted how she takes great pride in supporting and helping to grow island economies through the reliability of Matson's transportation networks. As a resident of Guam and daughter of Micronesia, Valencia stands behind the company's core mission of improving the quality of life in the communities they serve.

Supply & Demand Chain Executive received more than 300 entries for its newly launched Women in Supply Chain award. Check out Supply & Demand Chain Executive's website at www.sdcexec.com for the full list of all of the 2020 Women in Supply Chain winners. The 2020 Women in Supply Chain award appears in the SDCE's September issue, which was recently distributed. ***(PR)***

Nation

Trump Proud Boys remark echoes Charlottesville

AP
In this Sept. 7, 2020 photo, a protester carries a Proud Boys banner, symbol of a right-wing group, while other members start to unfurl a large U.S. flag in front of the Oregon State Capitol in Salem, Ore.

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump on Wednesday tried to walk back his refusal to outright condemn a far right fascist group during his debate with Democrat Joe Biden, but the inflammatory moment was far from the first time the president has failed to denounce white supremacists or has advanced racist ideas.

Trump's initial refusal to criticize the Proud Boys — instead saying the group should "stand back and stand by" — drew fierce blowback before he altered his message in a day-later effort to quell the firestorm.

"I don't know who Proud Boys are. But whoever they are they have to stand down, let law enforcement do their work," Trump told reporters as he left the White House for a campaign stop in Minnesota.

The new flareup over Trump's messaging on race was playing out just weeks before the election, leaving the president to play defense on yet another issue when he's already facing criticism of his handling of the coronavirus pandemic and under new scrutiny over his taxes.

And even after saying the Proud Boys should "stand down," Trump went on call out forces on the other end of the political spectrum and tried to attack Biden. It was an echo of the way he had blamed "both sides" for the 2017 violence between white supremacists and anti-racist protesters in Charlottesville, Virginia.

"Now antifa is a real problem," Trump said. "The problem is on the left. And Biden refuses to talk about it."

In fact, FBI Director Christopher Wray told a congressional panel last week that it was white supremacists and anti-government extremists who have been responsible for most of the recent deadly attacks by extremist groups in the U.S.

Proud Boys leaders and supporters took to social media to celebrate the president's comments at the debate, with more than 5,000 of the group's members posting "Stand Back" and "Stand By" above and below the group's logo.

And when Trump was directly asked Wednesday if he "would welcome white supremacist support," he ignored the question and again stressed the need for "law and order."

Trump built his political career on the back of the racist lie of birtherism—the false claim that Barack Obama was not born in the United States—and his business and political lives have long featured racial rhetoric and inflammatory actions. The president has rarely condemned white supremacists when not pressed to do so, and his refusal to criticize the fascist group was denounced by Democrats on Wednesday.

"My message to the Proud Boys and every other white supremacist group is cease and desist," Biden said during a post-debate train tour through Ohio and Pennsylvania. "That's not who we are. That's not who we are as Americans."

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer pressed his Republican colleagues: "How are you not embarrassed that President Trump represents your party? How can you possibly, possibly, support anyone who behaves this way?"

In an ugly debate marked by angry interruptions and bitter asides, Trump's remarks about the Proud Boys stood out. He was asked by moderator Chris Wallace of Fox News if he would "be willing tonight to condemn white supremacists and militia groups" and demand that they "stand down" and not add to the violence that has erupted in places like Portland, Oregon, and Kenosha, Wisconsin.

California wildfire evacuees return home to find devastation

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP)—Nikki and Kevin Conant returned to their home in Northern California wine country Wednesday to find only the charred remains of their home and burned pieces of the wine barrels they used to repurpose into custom-made art and furniture.

"It was like a part of me is gone, burned up in the fire. Everything we built here, everything we made here is gone," Nikki Conant said.

The couple, both 52, were preparing to evacuate Sunday when they saw an orange glow in the hills near their Santa Rosa rental home. Within 45 minutes, they could hear the trees crackling and propane tanks exploding as the blaze reached their community. They jumped in their car, and for what seemed like an eternity they were stuck in bumper-to- bumper traffic.

"I thought we were going to burn alive. I really did. It was horrible," Nikki Conant said.

Nikki sobbed Wednesday when she spotted her now-burned chicken coop. Her twelve beloved chickens all died in the fire. All the tools for their repurposing business were gone, too.

The Conants are among more than 70,000 people still under evacuation orders in the wine region north of San Francisco where the Glass Fire has incinerated at least 80 homes along with winery installations and other buildings.

Flames were continuing to tear through the region's rolling pastures and tree-dotted hills, toppling renowned wineries and restaurants.

"Every time we try to construct some control lines, the fire is outflanking us, so we have to pull back," Cal Fire Chief Mark Brunton said.

Firefighters were also warily watching for "violent" winds expected to return to the Napa-Sonoma area late Wednesday, with continuing extreme heat and low humidity. Red flag warnings of extreme fire danger were to continue into Friday evening.

Officials said they were requesting more fire crews to join 2,000 firefighters battling the blaze that has charred 76 square miles (197 square kilometers) with almost no containment.

Pacific Gas & Electric also cut power to another 3,100 customers in Napa County at the request of firefighters, the Santa Rosa Press Democrat reported.

Hot weather and the potential for fire damage could stress power supplies as people switch on their air conditioners. To avoid shortages, the California Independent System Operator, which runs the state's power grid, issued a statewide Flex Alert for 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday. It urged customers to avoid using large appliances during that time and to keep the thermostat at 78 degrees or above.

A mid-August heat wave strained the grid to the point where Cal ISO ordered utilities to implement brief rolling blackouts for the first time since 2001.

Numerous studies in recent years have linked bigger wildfires in America to global warming from the burning of coal, oil and gas, especially because climate change has made California much drier. A drier California means plants are more flammable.

Trump set to miss required deadline for 2021 refugee quota

SAN DIEGO (AP)—President Donald Trump appears to be ignoring a deadline to establish how many refugees will be allowed into the United States next year, raising uncertainty about the future of the 40-year-old resettlement program that has been dwindling under his administration.

The 1980 Refugee Act requires presidents to issue their determination before Oct. 1, the start of the fiscal year. With only hours to go Wednesday, the Trump administration had not scheduled consultations with Congress that are required before setting the annual figure.

There was no immediate comment from the White House, which usually announces the target numbers, or the departments of State or Homeland Security, which are involved in making the determination.

Democratic lawmakers blasted the administration for not meeting its obligation.

Trump's violation of the 1980 law "will bring our refugee admissions program to a halt, leaving thousands stranded abroad with their lives at risk," New York Rep. Jerrold Nadler, who's chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and California Rep. Zoe Lofgren, who's chairwoman of the Immigration and Citizenship Subcommittee, said in a statement.

Trump froze this year's admissions in March, citing a need to protect American jobs as fallout from the coronavirus crashed the economy. Advocates fear the government is intentionally delaying its plans for the 2021 fiscal year as a way to eventually eliminate the refugee program. No more refugees can be admitted after Thursday until the president sets the ceiling for the new year.

"We're concerned the administration may delay the announcement indefinitely," said Jacinta Ma of the National Immigration Forum, an advocacy group.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the administration is committed to the country's history of leading the world in providing a safe place for refugees.

"We continue to be the single greatest contributor to the relief of humanitarian crisis all around the world, and we will continue to do so," Pompeo told reporters in Rome on the sidelines of a conference on religious freedom organized by the U.S. Embassy. "Certainly so long as President Trump is in office, I can promise you this administration is deeply committed to that."

But advocates say the government's actions do not show that. Since taking office, Trump has slashed the number of refugees allowed into the country by more than 80%, reflecting his broader efforts to drastically reduce both legal and illegal immigration.

"Our fear is that this could be the death knell for the refugee resettlement program as we know it," said Krish Vignarajah, president of the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, a federally funded agency charged with resettling refugees in the United States.

The U.S. allowed in just over 10,800 refugees—a little more than half of the 18,000 cap set by Trump for 2020—before the State Department suspended the program because of the coronavirus.

Asia

Rape and killing of Dalit woman shocks India, draws outrage

NEW DELHI (AP)—The gang rape and death of a woman from the lowest rung of India's caste system sparked outrage across the country on Wednesday, with several politicians and activists demanding justice and protesters rallying in the streets.

The attack of the 19-year-old is the latest gruesome case of sexual violence against women to rile India, where reports of rape are hauntingly familiar.

The victim, who belonged to the Dalit community, was raped by four men on Sept. 14 in the heartland state of Uttar Pradesh's Hathras district. The woman's family told local media that they found her naked, bleeding and paralyzed with a split tongue and a broken spine in a field outside their home. She died two weeks later, on Tuesday, after battling serious injuries in a hospital in New Delhi.

Police said the four men, all from an upper caste, have been arrested.

Uttar Pradesh's chief minister, Yogi Adityanath, on Wednesday ordered a special investigation team to handle the case and said it will be tried in a fast-track court.

In New Delhi, police detained several female activists after they tried to march in the street shouting slogans against Adityanath and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The demonstrators carried placards that read, "Stop rape culture."

Maimoona Mullah of the All India Democratic Women's Association said Uttar Pradesh, which is ruled by Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party and ranks as the most unsafe state for women in the country, had become the "rape state of India."

"We do not accept rape culture in the name of new India," Mullah said.

Earlier on Tuesday, hundreds of protesters from the Bhim Army, a party championing the rights of Dalits, thronged the hospital premises in New Delhi and jostled with police. Party leader Chandra Shekhar Aazad urged Dalits across the country to flood the streets to demand that the perpetrators be hanged.

Dalits—formerly known as "untouchables" and at the bottom of India's unforgiving Hindu caste hierarchy—are victims of thousands of attacks each year. According to human rights organizations, Dalit women are particularly vulnerable to caste-based discrimination and sexual violence.

Last month, a 13-year-old Dalit girl was raped and killed in Uttar Pradesh. In December last year, a 23-year-old Dalit woman in the same state died after being set ablaze by a gang of men as she made her way to court to press rape charges. Both cases are pending in court.

In the latest case, questions were raised over a hasty cremation, with several politicians calling it an abuse of human rights.

The woman was cremated early Wednesday, with the family alleging that police did not allow them to perform her final rites. Videos on social media show the family weeping as police insisted on cremating the body without allowing them to take it home.

Senior Police Officer Vikrant Veer denied the allegations, while the leader of the opposition Congress party, Rahul Gandhi, described the cremation incident as "abusive and unjust."

In India, rape and sexual violence have been under the spotlight since the 2012 gang rape and killing of a 23-year-old student on a New Delhi bus. The attack galvanized massive protests and inspired lawmakers to order the creation of fast-track courts dedicated to rape cases and stiffen penalties for those convicted of the crime.

In March, four men sentenced to death for the 2012 attack were hanged.

Indians often rally for swift justice in a country where a woman is raped every 15 minutes, according to government data, and sentencing is notoriously delayed by backlogged courts.

According to the government, police registered 33,658 cases of rape in 2017—an average of 92 per day and a 35% jump from 2012. About 10,000 of the reported victims were children. The real figure is believed to be far higher due to the stigma of sexual violence.

An Indian activist shouts slogans as she is detained by police during a protest in New Delhi, India, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020. AP

South Korea has virus jump before holiday period

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea has reported 113 new cases of COVID-19, its first daily increase over 100 in five days, as the country entered a holiday break that officials fear would possibly worsen transmissions.

The numbers released by the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency on Wednesday brought the caseload to 23,812, including 413 deaths.

Eighty-one of the new cases came from the Seoul metropolitan area, where health workers have struggled to stem transmissions linked to various sources, including churches, medical facilities, restaurants, schools and workers. The newest cluster of infections is a mental hospital in northern Seoul where at least 30 have been infected.

Twenty of the new cases were tied to international arrivals.

Officials have called for citizen vigilance ahead of the Chuseok harvest festival that began Wednesday and continues through the weekend.

While millions of South Koreans travel during Chuseok every year to visit relatives, officials have pleaded that people stay home to help stem transmissions. Nightclubs, bars, buffet restaurants and other establishments deemed as "high-risk" will be shut in Seoul during the holiday period to reduce gatherings.

In other developments in the Asia-Pacific region:

■ North Korea called on governments to "display effective leadership" in the fight against COVID-19 and said its own measures against the pandemic ensured it had the threat "under safe and stable control." Kim Song, the country's U.N. ambassador, said a tightly administered anti-pandemic effort in his nation had been working. North Korea strictly regulates foreign visitors and filters all information through its state propaganda apparatus, with details about its approach to the coronavirus relatively scant. "A series of state measures are now being taken to block the virus inflow into the country, and all people adhere strictly to anti-epidemic regulations while maintaining the highest alert," he said. Separately, state media reported the nation's leader Kim Jong Un had presided over a Politburo meeting where officials warned against complacency and addressed unspecified problems in the anti-virus campaign.

■ India recorded 80,472 new confirmed coronaviruses cases in the past 24 hours, showing a decline from a record high two weeks ago. The Health Ministry raised India's confirmed total to more than 6.2 million on Wednesday with 2.5 million in September alone. It also reported 1,179 fatalities in the last 24 hours, raising the death toll to 97,497. India's Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu tested positive on Tuesday and was advised home quarantine. His office said in a tweet that Naidu, 71, is asymptomatic and in good health. Home Minister Amit Shah had tested positive last month and recovered in a hospital. India's recovery rate crossed 83% on Tuesday and the number of cases under treatment were less than 1 million. The daily testing covered more than 1 million people, the ministry said. Meanwhile, a serological survey showed that the infections were more prevalent in urban centers with high population density. The survey by the state-run Indian Council of Medical Research also found that 6.6% of the population above 10 years old have been exposed to the coronavirus.

Japan military seeks record budget amid regional threats

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's Defense Ministry is seeking a record-high budget of nearly 5.5 trillion yen ($55 billion) for fiscal 2021 to fund more purchases of costly American stealth fighters and expand its capability to counter possible threats in both cyber and outer space.

The budget request made public Wednesday is the first under new Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga and would be an 8% increase from the current year, signaling a continuation of his hawkish predecessor Shinzo Abe's security policy. Japan's defense spending has risen for eight consecutive years since 2013, a year after Abe took office.

The rise in spending came as Abe pushed for Japan's Self-Defense Force to expand its international role and capability amid threats from North Korea and China, both traditional and non-traditional. Japan also faced demands from President Donald Trump that U.S. allies increase defense spending, which Japan did in part with costly American weapons purchases that also bolster weapons compatibility with American forces.

Purchases for missile deterrence are among the most costly items in the proposed 2021 budget and include Lockheed Martin Corp.'s F-35B stealth fighters capable of short takeoff and vertical landing for 26 billion yen ($246 million). Japan has plans to acquire 42 F-35Bs in coming years.

To accommodate the F-35Bs, the Defense Ministry is seeking 3.2 billion yen ($30 million) to reconfigure one of its two helicopter carriers, Kaga, with a heat-resistant flight deck. The other flat-top Izumo has also been configured.

The ministry is also seeking 58.7 billion yen ($556 million) for the research into developing next generation fighter jets to replace F-2s retiring in the 2030s. Japan plans to develop its own engine, but is also considering co-developing some other parts with the U.S. and Britain.

Japan's costly purchase of American weapons has helped reduce its trade surplus with the U.S., but has raised concerns at home that it will set back its fledgling local defense industry.

World

Azerbaijan, Armenia no closer to ending clashes after 4 days

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP)—Heavy fighting between Armenian and Azerbaijani forces over the separatist region of Nagorno-Karabakh continued for a fourth straight day on Wednesday, with statements from both sides indicating that the flare-up of a decades-old conflict that has killed dozens of people since Sunday was no closer to an end.

The president of Azerbaijan said Armenia's withdrawal from Nagorno-Karabakh was the sole condition to end fighting over the separatist territory. Armenian officials alleged Turkey's involvement in the renewed conflict and said its neighbor's actions "hinder the efforts of the international community to cease the hostilities."

Meeting with wounded servicemen, Azerbaijani President Ilkham Aliyev said Armenia must "unconditionally, completely and immediately leave" Nagorno-Karabakh, which lies within Azerbaijan and has been under the control of ethnic Armenian forces backed by the Armenian government since 1994.

"If Armenia's government fulfills it, the fighting will stop, blood will not be shed, there will be peace," Aliyev was quoted by the Russian state Tass news agency as saying. "Azerbaijan is restoring its territorial integrity, and we have every right to do so."

The scenario laid out by the Azerbaijani leader is at odds with Armenia's views on ending the crisis. Aliyev's statement came a day after Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said that Azerbaijan's "aggression towards Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia" needed to end before any compromise could be reached.

In this image taken from video released by the Armenian Defense Ministry on Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020, Armenian solders guard their position in the self-proclaimed Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan. Armenia's Foreign Ministry in a statement "completely" denied reports of shelling the Dashkesan region and said that with those reports Azerbaijan was laying the groundwork for "expanding the geography of hostilities, including the aggression against the Republic of Armenia." (ARMENIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY VIA AP)

On Wednesday, Pashinyan also said that Armenia may recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as independent, a move that could further interfere with a potential settlement of the dispute.

Armenia and Azerbaijan have been locked for decades in a conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, where a separatist war was fought in the early 1990s until three years after the breakup of the Soviet Union. The region in the Caucasus Mountains of about 4,400 square kilometers (1,700 square miles), roughly the size of the U.S. state of Delaware, is 50 kilometers (30 miles) from the Armenian border.

Soldiers backed by Armenia occupy the region as well as some Azerbaijani territory outside of it.

On Wednesday, the fighting continued despite repeated calls for a cease-fire from around the globe. According to officials in Nagorno-Karabakh, around 100 servicemen and several civilians on their side have been killed since the fighting erupted on Sunday. Azerbaijani officials didn't provide details on its military casualties but said 14 civilians have been killed and 46 wounded on its side.

The conflict escalated on Tuesday, with Armenia claiming that a Turkish F-16 fighter jet shot down a SU-25 from its air force in Armenian airspace, killing the pilot.

Turkey, which has been vocal about siding with Azerbaijan in the dispute, denied those claims, and so did Azerbaijan.

Hikmet Hajiyev, an aide to Azerbaijani President Ilkham Aliyev, told reporters via teleconference on Wednesday that the incident involved two Armenian SU-25 planes that reportedly crashed into a mountain, rather than an F-16 downing a SU-25.

Armenia on Wednesday continued to allege Turkey was involved in the conflict, saying Turkish drones and F-16s were being used in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Armenia's Foreign Ministry demanded "immediate withdrawal of the Turkish armed forces, including the air force, from the conflict zone."

"The provocative actions of the Turkish armed forces seriously undermine the regional security and hinder the efforts of the international community to cease the hostilities," a ministry statement said.

Turkey's Defense Ministry dismissed claims that Turkey's planes and drones were deployed to help Azerbaijan as propaganda by Armenia. The ministry said Armenia sought to increase international support "by creating the perception" that it was fighting Turkey.

Meanwhile, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said Wednesday that if Azerbaijan requests assistance, Ankara will provide it.

"We have said that if Azerbaijan wants to solve this on the field, we will stand by Azerbaijan. If Azerbaijan makes a request, we would do the necessary. But we see that Azerbaijan has sufficient capacity," Cavusoglu told the Anadolu news agency.

Earlier this week, Armenian officials also claimed that Turkey sent fighters from Syria to Azerbaijan. Turkish officials rejected the accusation, and Azerbaijan's president dismissed it as "fake news."

However, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an opposition war monitor, said Wednesday that so far some 850 Syrian fighters have arrived in Azerbaijan and hundreds more were expected to arrive there in the coming days. Three had been killed in fighting, the activists said.

The Russian Foreign Ministry on Wednesday expressed concerns over reports about "militants from illegal armed groups, in particular from Syria, Libya" being sent to the conflict zone in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Venezuelan opposition leader, EU urge delay in election

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—A popular opposition politician in Venezuela urged authorities on Wednesday to delay upcoming congressional elections, saying it's the only way to create free and fair conditions for the vote.

The call by former presidential candidate Henrique Capriles came hours after the European Union made a similar plea, reiterating that it won't send observers to Venezuela without postponing the vote and seeing a vast improvement in electoral conditions.

"If it's postponed, does that automatically mean there will be the right conditions?" Capriles said in an online broadcast. "No, but it allows for the possibility of an observation mission."

At stake in the vote now set for Dec. 6 is control of the National Assembly. The legislative body is controlled by an opposition coalition led by U.S.-backed politician Juan Guaidó. A loss of the chamber could erase the opposition's last hold power, putting all branches of government under President Nicolás Maduro's control.

A month earlier, Capriles, 48, said he'd back candidates in the election, breaking with Guaidó, who maintains Maduro has already rigged the election. Guadó also claims presidential powers as head of the National Assembly in a campaign to oust Maduro.

For his part, Maduro sees the election as an opportunity to rid Venezuela of opponents, who he said are dead-set on stirring violence and handing over Venezuela's vast oil wealth to what he calls the imperialist United States.

"Come rain, thunder or lightning, on December 6 will will hold the parliamentary elections," Maduro said in a recent TV address.

The EU recently sent two representatives to Caracas to discuss the possibility of delaying the vote. In a statement released early Wednesday, the coalition of 27 European nations said it won't send observers to Venezuela unless the election is both postponed and better conditions are guaranteed.

"Beyond the immediate issue of legislative elections, the long-term objective remains the path to democracy," the EU statement said. "It is the time for bold Venezuelan-owned decisions in support of a peaceful and democratic transition."

Mexican congress votes to fine people who block beach access

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico's Senate has voted to levy fines of up to $47,000 against hotels, restaurants or other property owners who restrict access to the country's beaches.

The bill approved unanimously Tuesday also requires property owners to allow the public access through their lots to beaches that do not have access roads.

The bill now goes to the president for his approval. Mexicans have long been angered by private restaurants, clubs and hotels that erect barriers or employ guards to keep locals off "their" stretch of beach.

Federal law already states the public cannot be denied access to a space 20 meters inland from the high tide line, but some businesses mark off exclusive areas almost up to the water's edge. Business that repeatedly break the law could lose their permits to operate on any part of the beach.

In February, two Mexican tourists were briefly arrested in the Caribbean resort of Playa del Carmen after refusing to leave a stretch of sand that had been taken over by a local restaurant to set up tables for paying customers. The arrests sparked protests, and the local government later apologized.

The private "beach club" had been charging to use lounge chairs placed almost up to the water's edge, and it called municipal police when the couple refused to leave what the club called "a service aisle" on the sand. Video posted on social media showed the couple being handcuffed and wrestled off the beach by police as other people objected, noting beach access is protected by law.

The issue has also gained prominence during the pandemic, as public beaches were officially closed along much of Mexico's Caribbean coast as a health measure, but tourists—often foreigners—could still enjoy the sands through resorts or hotels that have direct beach access.

Labor Party Sen. Alejandra del Carmen León praised the new law and said the practice of granting beach "concessions" to private businesses in the past constituted "an act of classism and discrimination" against local Mexican families.

Off The Wall

This photo taken on Saturday Sept. 26, 2020 and issued by Lincolnshire Wildlife Park shows an African grey parrot at Lincolnshire Wildlife Centre in Friskney, England, one of five who were separated as keepers say they were encouraging each other to swear. Billy, Eric, Tyson, Jade and Elsie joined Lincolnshire Wildlife Centre's colony of 200 grey parrots in August, and soon revealed a penchant for blue language. AP

Gray parrots separated at zoo after swearing a blue streak

LONDON (AP)—A British zoo has had to separate five foul-mouthed parrots who keepers say were encouraging each other to swear.

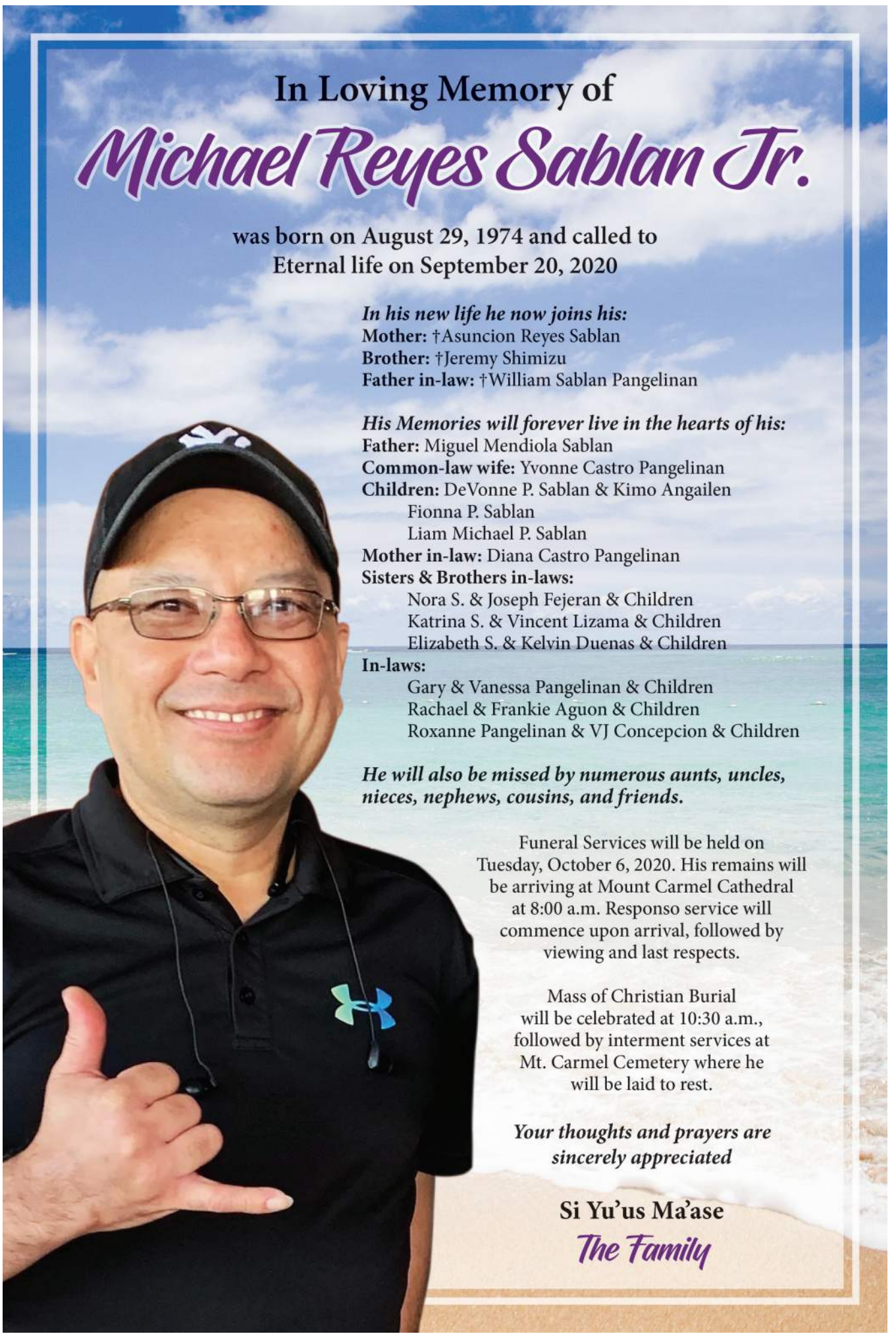
Billy, Eric, Tyson, Jade and Elsie joined Lincolnshire Wildlife Centre's colony of 200 gray parrots in August, and soon revealed a penchant for blue language.

"We are quite used to parrots swearing, but we've never had five at the same time," said the zoo's chief executive, Steve Nichols. "Most parrots clam up outside, but for some reason these five relish it."

Nichols said no visitors had complained about the parrots, and most found the situation funny.

"When a parrot tells tells you to 'f— off" it amuses people very highly," he said Tuesday. "It's brought a big smile to a really hard year."

Nichols said the parrots have been separated to save children's ears. They were moved to different areas of the park so they don't "set each other off," he said.


In Loving Memory of
Michael Reyes Sablan Jr.
was born on August 29, 1974 and called to
Eternal life on September 20, 2020
In his new life he now joins his:
Mother: †Asuncion Reyes Sablan
Brother: †Jeremy Shimizu
Father in-law: †William Sablan Pangelinan
His Memories will forever live in the hearts of his:
Father: Miguel Mendiola Sablan
Common-law wife: Yvonne Castro Pangelinan
Children: DeVonne P. Sablan & Kimo Angailen
Fionna P. Sablan
Liam Michael P. Sablan
Mother in-law: Diana Castro Pangelinan
Sisters & Brothers in-laws:
Nora S. & Joseph Fejeran & Children
Katrina S. & Vincent Lizama & Children
Elizabeth S. & Kelvin Duenas & Children
In-laws:
Gary & Vanessa Pangelinan & Children
Rachael & Frankie Aguon & Children
Roxanne Pangelinan & VJ Concepcion & Children
He will also be missed by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.
Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020. His remains will be arriving at Mount Carmel Cathedral at 8:00 a.m. Responso service will commence upon arrival, followed by viewing and last respects.
Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m., followed by interment services at Mt. Carmel Cemetery where he will be laid to rest.
Your thoughts and prayers are sincerely appreciated
Si Yu'us Ma'ase
The Family

Flash in dark sky was probably a random meteor, expert says

PITTSBURGH (AP)—A flash that lit up the skies over parts of Pennsylvania and Ohio in the wee hours of Wednesday was probably a random meteor, an expert said.

Many social media users around the Pittsburgh area reported seeing a streaking fireball shortly after 4 a.m. It remained in the skies for a short time before disappearing from view.

A security camera at a property owned by Mark and Rosemary Sasala in New Lyme, Ohio, northwest of Pittsburgh, captured a brief, bright flash partially obscured by clouds around 4:20 a.m.

The American Meteor Society, a nonprofit group, said it received more than 200 reports of a bright fireball over eastern Ohio. Robert Lunsford, a society official, said the fireball was most likely a random meteor not associated with any known meteor shower.

Giant pumpkins smash the Utah state record at weigh-off in Lehi

LEHI, Utah (AP)—The Utah Giant Pumpkin Growers group has recorded eight pumpkins from the state this year that weighed more than 1,000 pounds (455 kilograms), setting a state record.

The first-place pumpkin at the 16th annual event last Saturday in the city of Lehi came in at 1,825 pounds (830 kilograms), KSTU-TV reported.

The hefty gourd was grown by local farmer Mohamed Sadiq. It was the largest pumpkin to be grown outside of a greenhouse and the second largest pumpkin ever grown in Utah, event organizers said.

The event was an official weighing session for the Great Pumpkin Commonwealth, an organization that has made giant pumpkin growing a hobby with standards to ensure quality, competition fairness and education.

The group is hosting a second event at Hee Haw Farms in Pleasant Grove on Oct. 10.

This photo provided by Jim Seamons shows officials measuring a giant pumpkin at the 16th Annual UGPG Thanksgiving Point Weigh-Off on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2020 in Lehi, Utah. AP

Romanian villagers re-elect man despite his being dead

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP)—After handing Ion Aliman victory in the election for their local mayor, residents of a small village in southern Romania went to his grave to light candles for him.

Aliman was reelected in a landslide for an unprecedented third term as mayor of the village of Deveselu despite having died from COVID-19 complications 10 days prior to the country's municipal elections.

His death came too late to remove his name from Sunday's ballot, but the news of his passing spread fast through the village, home to just over 3,000 people. The popular incumbent would have celebrated his 57th birthday on election day.

To honor the man they admired, hundreds of Deveselu villagers went to the polling stations Sunday and voted for Aliman anyway.

After preliminary election results showed late Sunday that Aliman had won 1,057 out of the 1,600 votes cast in Deveselu, a large group of villagers visited his grave to light candles and pay their respects.

Science & Technology

TECH Q&A: What to do if your PC's System Restore breaks

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: I use Windows 10 System Restore, which will allow me to return the PC's settings to an earlier time if I run into trouble. I create a new "restore point" (a calendar date to which the PC could return) every day, but it disappears within 24 hours. What's wrong?

A: System Restore is one of the most valuable protection features of a Windows PC. If a calamity befalls your PC today, it's your time machine to escape into the past.

Fortunately, there are several ways to fix System Restore. The easiest is to scan your PC for malware (no antivirus program catches everything.) Malware might erase your system restore points to protect itself from being removed (returning to an earlier date erases everything installed since that date.) Run the free version of Malwarebytes (see tinyurl.com/y3ju6oov). There are also problems in Windows that can cause new System Restore points to vanish:

■ Simple software errors. System Restore points are stored in a folder called "System Volume Information." If that folder is corrupted, new restore points won't be saved. To fix that folder, disable System Restore, then re-enable it (see tinyurl.com/yc4er5lk). That will erase the corrupt System Volume Information folder and create a new one.

■ Flaws in the Windows file system or on the hard disk. Run the "Check Disk" feature of Windows, which is abbreviated as "Chkdsk" (see tinyurl.com/y436geqk). It will fix file system flaws, and if it finds bad spots on the disk, it will fix them or tell the PC to avoid them.

If Chkdsk reveals problems in Windows, you can make sure they get fixed by running the Windows "System File Checker" (abbreviated SFC), which replaces missing or damaged files (see tinyurl.com/y6cctzut).

■ Problems you can work around. Try starting your PC in "Safe Mode" (see tinyurl.com/yytu3gfz). This starts Windows with a minimum amount of the operating system running, and that may allow you to work around a problem within the larger Windows program. For example, if a Windows flaw is preventing you from seeing the System Restore points you've created, those same restore points may be visible in Safe Mode.

Q: When I upgraded the operating system on my MacBook Air to Catalina version 10.15.6, it caused my Microsoft Word 2011 program to stop working. Will I now have to pay the subscription fee for Microsoft 365, the online version of Office, so that I can convert my Word files to Adobe PDF or Apple Pages files?

A: Microsoft 365 isn't the answer. It could convert your Word files to PDF format, but not to Apple Pages format.

But you don't need to convert your Word documents to a different format, because the Pages program can do it for you. Start Pages, go to File and open the Word document you want to convert. Pages will open the Word document (no matter whether it uses the .doc or. docx suffix) and automatically convert it to Pages format.

When you have finished editing the document, Pages will normally store it in the Pages format. But the program can also store the document in the Word or PDF formats (for details, see tinyurl.com/yxv9jkaf).

FOURTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

WE, THE FAMILY OF THE LATE

†Rosa Cruz San Nicolas Norita

Would like to invite all our relatives and friends to join us for the daily masses commemorating our dearly beloved's passing unto eternal life.

Daily mass of intentions will be celebrated starting Sunday, October 4, 2020 through Monday, October 12, 2020 at 6:00am at Mount Carmel Cathedral Church in Chalan Kanoa. On Monday, October 12, at 6:00pm, dinner will be at the family residence in Chalan Kanoa District 3.

Please join us in prayers.
Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Nicanor "Nick" Flores Norita,
Children and Family

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

†Thomas Duenas

March 12, 1946 – September 25, 2020

In his new life he now joins his:

Wife:	†Casilda Sablan Duenas
Mother:	†Lucia Aldan Duenas
Father:	†Pedro Palacios Duenas (PPD)
Mother in-law:	†Maria Cabrera Mendiola
Father in-law:	†Jose Salas Sablan

His Memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife:	Lisa Yali Zhang Duenas
Children:	Lorraine D. & Vincent S. Pangelinan (Tonya Pangelinan & Ryan Hattori; Naomi P. & Anthony Hofschneider & Children; Joreen P. & Andre Christian & Children; Vanisha P. & Anthony Deleon Guerrero) Ruby & +Ralph Torres (Thomas Jude D. Torres; Tinisha D. Torres & Ramiro Arriago & Child; Ralph D. Torres Jr.; Casilda D. Torres; Jerraine D. Torres; Jana D. Torres)

He will also be missed by his siblings and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2020. His remains will be escorted from CHCC to San Antonio Church at 7:30a.m. Responso service followed by holy rosary will commence upon arrival, followed by viewing and last respects.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m., followed by interment services at Mt. Carmel Cemetery where he will be laid to rest.

Your thoughts and prayers are sincerely appreciated.
Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Family

Life & Style

AP

An actor dressed as a pantomime dame poses for photographers as they march on Parliament to demand more support for the theatre sector amid the COVID-19 pandemic in London, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020.

Actors in drag

march to highlight virus threat to UK theater

LONDON (AP)—As much of Britain's economy emerged from the coronavirus lockdown, its theaters stayed dark, with performers and staff unwillingly idled.

So they made a song and dance about it.

Scores of actors, technicians and theater workers led by pantomime "Dames"—male actors in fabulously eccentric drag -- marched through London's West End to Parliament to the beat of showtunes Wednesday, asking the government for a plan to bring theaters back to life.

The demonstrators were highlighting the prospect of a bleak Christmas season without the hundreds of pantomimes usually staged across the U.K.

Pantos—a raucous blend of fairy-tale plots, topical references, slapstick, song, dance and innuendo—are as much a part of the British holiday season as turkey and presents. The star characters are the Dames, bawdy female characters played by men.

"This is probably the only time I'll get into a frock this year," said actor Tim Hudson, who in normal times would be preparing for his 21st panto season. Instead he donned a patchwork floral dress and auburn wig and joined the protest.

He said the theater "is one of our greatest cultural assets. It's in deadly peril at the moment."

The coronavirus pandemic brought down the curtains at Britain's theaters overnight in March. A few are tentatively beginning to reopen, with reduced capacity and at a financial loss. But rising coronavirus infections and the threat of new local lockdowns threaten even this fragile recovery.

Some fear Britain's world-renowned theater industry—which sold 1.3 billion pounds ($1.7 billion) worth of tickets in 2018—will be wiped out if the government doesn't provide a lifeline.

It ls already too late to save this year's pantos, which many theaters rely on for essential income.

"Pantos sustain whole years," said Dec Togher, a technician at a West End theater. "It's like a game of Kerplunk—if you take this stick out, the whole thing collapses."

Many theater workers and artists are also struggling to survive.

When Britain went into lockdown, the government stepped in to pay the wages of millions of furloughed employees. But most people who work in the theater are freelance and did not qualify. Another program was set up to help the self-employed, but actors' union Equity says almost half of its members had not received any support.

Britain is bracing for a spike in unemployment as job support schemes are wound down over the next few months. In addition, many arts workers have been stung by the Conservative government's suggestion that it will only support jobs that are "viable."

"The theater industry is not just a hobby," said Helen Clarkson, a stage manager with two decades of experience. "This is what we do. We need the government to take notice that we are a vital part of the economy."

Judge says new royal book can be used in Meghan privacy case

LONDON (AP)—The publisher of Britain's Mail on Sunday newspaper can use the contents of a recent behind-the scenes book about the Duke and Duchess of Sussex in its legal defense for an invasion of privacy lawsuit brought by the duchess, a judge ruled Tuesday.

Judge Francesca Kaye gave Associated Newspapers Ltd. permission to amend its defense to add "further particulars" relating to the book "Finding Freedom," which was published last month.

The former Meghan Markle, 39, is suing the publisher over five February 2019 articles in the Mail on Sunday and on the MailOnline website that published portions of a handwritten letter she wrote to her estranged father, Thomas Markle, after her marriage to Harry in 2018.

Associated Newspapers is contesting the claim in London's High Court. Its lawyers argue that Meghan made personal information public by cooperating with the authors of the book "in order to set out her own version of events in a way that is favorable to her."

Antony White, a lawyer for Associated Newspapers, said in written court submissions that the book appeared to have been written with Meghan and Harry's "extensive cooperation."

Meghan's lawyers deny that she collaborated with the book's authors, ELLE and Oprah magazine contributor Carolyn Durand and Omid Scobie, royal editor for Harper's Bazaar.

Law firm Schillings, which is representing Meghan, said after the ruling that the publisher's defense "has no merit and is in fact false."

"This latest hearing was unfortunately another step in a case that has already been drawn out by a defendant who uses the legal process to exploit the Duchess's privacy and the privacy of those around her for profit-motivated clickbait rather than journalism," the firm said in a statement.

A full trial in Meghan's lawsuit against Associated Newspapers is due to start in January.

Rihanna wants to cheer up a troubled world with fashion show

NEW YORK (AP)—With help from Lizzo, Travis Scott, Rosalia and some of the biggest names in modeling, Rihanna said she decided to forge ahead with a new digital-only Savage X Fenty lingerie show to bring something good into a troubled world.

Insofar as well-priced intimates in a broad range of sizes can achieve that goal.

"There's a lot going on in the world right now and I relate to all of it," the superstar and fashion icon told The Associated Press during a recent round of interviews. "People need a little bit of hope, they need a little bit of happiness, and if we can bring a smile to their face and a little bit of fun while they're stuck at home, it's a desire and an honor to be a part of that."

The Savage X Fenty Show Vol. 2, with musical performances and dancers along with models, was filmed in September in Los Angeles and will drop Friday exclusively on Amazon Prime Video in more than 240 countries and territories. It's the line's second turn on the streaming platform.

Rihanna has quickly made a name for the company, launching Savage X Fenty in 2018 with splashy, performance-based shows before large (very excited) live crowds.

For the first time, there's something for men, thanks to Christian Combs' appearance in last year's show with chunky bling around his neck, a bare chest and some ultra-tight skivvies as a disembodied voice purred: "Dirty. Nasty. Dirty. Nasty."

Combs designed some boxers worthy of all gender expressions to debut with pajamas and trunks in knits and satin for the Fall 2020 collection, all of which will be available for purchase Friday on Amazon Fashion and SavageX.com.

"I didn't want this to be a boxers-are-for-men type situation and then we have to make a female version," said Rihanna, dressed in plunging black leather and fishnet stockings with large crosses around her neck. "I love wearing boxer briefs and when I saw him wear them in the show last year, a lot of people were really excited, our customers were excited."

Rihanna has proven her commitment to inclusive representation when presenting Savage X Fenty in her use of models in a range of sizes and shapes and across a broad spectrum of skin tones. Since the beginning, the line has been available from 32A to 42H in bras and XS to 3X in undies and sleepwear.

Reggaeton redemption: Balvin, Bunny top Latin Grammy nods

NEW YORK (AP)—At last year's Latin Grammy Awards, popular reggaeton and Latin trap musicians such as J Balvin, Bad Bunny and Ozuna were dismissed in the show's top categories. This year, they dominate.

Balvin scored a whopping 13 nominations for the 2020 Latin Grammys, including two nominations for album of the year and two for record of the year. The Latin Academy announced Tuesday that Bad Bunny and Ozuna are behind Balvin with nine and eight nominations, respectively.

Balvin has a chance to win his first album of the year prize—a category with 10 contenders—thanks to his fifth solo album "Colores" and "Oasis," his collaborative project with Bad Bunny. Other nominees include Bad Bunny's sophomore release "YHLQMDLG" as well as albums from Ricky Martin, Carlos Vives, Jesse & Joy, Kany García, Natalia Lafourcade, Camilo and Fito Paez.

For record of the year, which also has 10 nominees, contenders include popular hip-hop-flavored Latin songs that have dominated the Latin music charts and earned hundreds of millions plays on streaming services, with some even reaching the billion-mark on YouTube, including Karol G and Nicki Minaj's global hit "Tusa" and "China" by Anuel AA, Daddy Yankee, Karol G, Ozuna and Balvin. Other nominees include Balvin's "Rojo" and Bad Bunny's "Vete."

"Tusa" is the sole Latin trap nominee in the song of the year category, where 11 tracks are in contention. It's a departure for Karol G, who didn't receive a single nomination last year and was part of the group of uber-successful Latin trap and reggaeton artists who were dissed in top categories like album, song and record of the year.

This year, the Colombian performer who was named best new artist in 2018 has four nominations, including two shared with Minaj. Karol G's fiance, Puerto Rican rapper-singer Anuel AA, marked a major breakthrough this year as a first-time nominee. He scored seven nominations, including a bid for best new artist.

Chadwick Boseman took a salary cut to raise Sienna Miller's pay on '21 Bridges'

By CHRISTI CARRAS
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Actress Sienna Miller has paid tribute to her late costar Chadwick Boseman by sharing a personal sacrifice he made for her on the 2019 film "21 Bridges."

Boseman

In an Empire interview published Monday, Miller revealed that Boseman, who also co-produced "21 Bridges," reduced his own salary in order to raise Miller's pay on the action thriller, which starred the performers as a pair of detectives investigating the deaths of police officers in New York.

"[Boseman] had been really active in trying to get me to do [the film]," Miller told Empire. "He was a fan of my work, which was thrilling, because it was reciprocated from me to him, tenfold.

"So he approached me to do it, he offered me this film, and it was at a time when I really didn't want to work anymore. I'd been working non-stop and I was exhausted, but then I wanted to work with him."

Adding to Miller's reluctance was the "inconvenient" timing of the project, which arrived just as her young daughter was starting school.

"This was a pretty big budget film, and I know that everybody understands about the pay disparity in Hollywood, but I asked for a number that the studio wouldn't get to," she said.

"And because I was hesitant to go back to work ... I said, 'I'll do it if I'm compensated in the right way.' And Chadwick ended up donating some of his salary to get me to the number that I had asked for. He said that that was what I deserved to be paid."

As Hollywood tributes have continued to pour in for the "Black Panther" star, Miller said she was unsure at first if she should "tell this story," but ultimately decided it was an important "testament to who he was." Boseman died last month after a private four-year battle with colon cancer.

"That kind of thing just doesn't happen," Miller continued. "He said, 'You're getting paid what you deserve, and what you're worth.' It's just unfathomable to imagine another man in that town behaving that graciously or respectfully.

"In the aftermath of this I've told other male actor friends of mine that story and they all go very very quiet and go home and probably have to sit and think about things for a while. But there was no showiness, it was, 'Of course I'll get you to that number, because that's what you should be paid.'"

Filmmaker Ava DuVernay, her company honored by MacDowell

NEW YORK (AP)—Filmmaker Ava DuVernay will be honored next month by MacDowell, which is presenting its inaugural Marian MacDowell Arts Advocacy Award to her media company and arts collective ARRAY.

DuVernay

The award is named for the co-founder of MacDowell, the century-old artist residency in Peterborough, New Hampshire, where James Baldwin, Leonard Bernstein and many others have been visiting fellows. DuVernay, known for such acclaimed movies as "Selma" and "13th," founded ARRAY in 2012 as a way of amplifying the work of women and people of color.

"I am touched that our narrative change collective ARRAY, which is built upon a mission to articulate and amplify stories from the widest range of art makers, is being honored in Ms. MacDowell's name," DuVernay said in a statement Sunday. "I look forward to cultivating a partnership between ARRAY and MacDowell to enable more artists of color, specifically women, to be a part of the residency program in coming years."

MacDowell will host a virtual ceremony on Oct. 19. Actress and former chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, Jane Alexander, will present the award.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Billboard Awards: Alicia Keys, Bad Bunny, Malone to perform

NEW YORK (AP)—Alicia Keys, Bad Bunny, Luke Combs and leading nominee Post Malone will perform at the 2020 Billboard Music Awards. NBC and dick clark productions on Tuesday announced the performers for the show, which will broadcast live from The Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles on Oct. 14. With restrictions set due to the coronavirus pandemic, it wasn't clear if the performances will be live or pre-taped. The awards show was originally supposed to take place in April but was postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic, which caused a halt to live performances and TV and film productions. Kelly Clarkson will host the Billboard Awards, and Garth Brooks will receive the ICON Award. Malone's 16 nominations include top male artist, top rap artist and the show's biggest prize, top artist. Others competing for the top honor include Billie Eilish, Taylor Swift, Khalid and Jonas Brothers.

Texas prosecutors drop Alex Jones' drunken driving charge

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Prosecutors in Texas have rejected a drunken driving charge against conspiracy theorist and radio host Alex Jones, who was arrested in Austin earlier this year. The Travis County attorney's office rejected the misdemeanor charge of driving while intoxicated against Jones on Sept. 18, records show. A Travis County sheriff's deputy pulled Jones over on March 10 for going 5 mph above the speed limit, according to the Austin American-Statesman. The deputy was responding to a call from the Infowars host's then-wife, Kelly Morales, who reported that he was driving a black Dodge Charger and may have been drinking, according to an affidavit. Travis County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Kristen Dark said Jones had a "strong odor of alcohol" coming from him and that he was unable to complete field sobriety tests, losing his balance and failing to touch heel to toe. Jones' blood-alcohol level was recorded at .076 and .079, according to court records; the legal blood alcohol limit is .08 in Texas. Under state law, impairment is possible regardless of a person's blood alcohol level, meaning a jury in Texas could reasonably determine a driver was intoxicated even if they didn't reach the 0.08 threshold.

Barry Jenkins to direct 'Lion King' follow-up

NEW YORK (AP)—The Walt Disney Co. will make a follow-up to the 2019 live-action "The Lion King," with Barry Jenkins, the director of the Oscar-winning "Moonlight" and the James Baldwin adaptation "If Beale Street Could Talk," set to direct. Disney announced plans Tuesday for a kind of prequel to last year's poorly reviewed but highly popular photorealistic remake. The new "Lion King" grossed more than $1.6 billion worldwide, so a sequel was perhaps always likely. Less expected was a "Lion King" with Jenkins directing. The film, Disney said, will explore the mythology of "The Lion King," including Mufasa's origin story. "Helping my sister raise two young boys during the '90s, I grew up with these characters," Jenkins said in a statement. "Having the opportunity to work with Disney on expanding this magnificent tale of friendship, love and legacy while furthering my work chronicling the lives and souls of folk within the African diaspora is a dream come true." Jenkins earlier this year completed shooting on the Amazon limited series "The Underground Railroad," based on the Colson Whitehead novel. He won an Oscar for the script to the best-picture-winning "Moonlight" and was nominated for the screenplay to 2018's "If Beale Street Could Talk." He also last year made plans to direct a film based on the life of choreographer Alvin Ailey for Disney's Searchlight Pictures.

'Borat' sequel to be released by Amazon before election

NEW YORK (AP)—Borat is back. Sacha Baron Cohen has filmed a sequel to his 2006 film "Borat! Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan" that Amazon plans to release before the election. The streaming giant confirmed Tuesday that it has acquired worldwide rights to the film. It's reportedly titled: "Borat: Gift of Pornographic Monkey to Vice Premiere Mikhael Pence to Make Benefit Recently Diminished Nation of Kazakhstan." Reports have steadily accumulated about the project throughout the summer as it was filmed in secret during the pandemic. In early July, Rudy Giuliani called the police on Cohen after an interview in which Cohen emerged in character. Giuliani told Page Six: "This guy comes running in wearing a crazy, what I would say was a pink transgender outfit. It was a pink bikini, with lace." In June, Cohen appeared at a far-right rally in Olympia, Washington, posing as a sponsor of the event. He led the crowd in a racially charged singalong. Cohen originated the character of Borat Sagdiyev, a fictional Kazakh journalist, on his series "Da Ali G Show." The 2006 film, directed by Larry Charles, grossed $262 million worldwide and was nominated for best adapted screenplay.

Friend wants to break up with longtime golf partner

DEAR ABBY: Years ago, I met a man through golf, and we developed a casual friendship. I lost track of him for a few years, but when I heard his wife was being treated with chemo for cancer, I took them food and offered my support. As our friendship grew stronger, we began playing more golf and became "refriended." He's a good golfer, but very serious, and he whines constantly on the course. I have kidded him about it, and he acknowledges it to a small degree.

He's also joined at the hip with his wife, so much so that when I invited him to our cabin for a guys' weekend, he asked if his wife and dog could come along. I nixed the dog and reluctantly agreed to the wife. A year later, I invited him again, but without his wife because two other friends were coming and it was guys only. He came, but he didn't really fit in.

Fast-forward to now. Our friendship continues, but his whining has grown much worse, and he can't go anywhere without his wife (although she's very nice). She has mentioned to friends that I'm one of only a few remaining friends, and she appreciates it very much. Now I know why! How do I "break up," Abby? I don't want to be around him anymore.

ANONYMOUS IN THE WEST

DEAR ANONYMOUS: Because your friend doesn't fit in with the other guy friends, no rule of etiquette says you must continue to invite him. I wish you had mentioned what he whines about when you golf with him. If it is his wife's precarious health, it may be that he needs to vent in a cancer support group rather than with you. If it's the golf game, then you will have to decide whether he's such a valuable golf partner that you need him. If other members of your golf group no longer want him there, it would be a kindness to socialize with him and his wife less often rather than abandon them. If the shoe was on the other foot, isn't that what you would want?

DEAR ABBY: My siblings died a couple of years apart, and my parents treat me like I'm the one who should be gone. They often complain or compare the things I do to something they would have done.

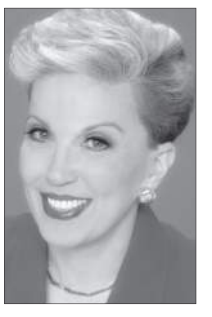
My parents raised me to be independent and take care of myself, but all they do is show me that I don't matter. My niece shares that opinion. She thinks I'm not raising my son right. (Mind you, she's only 20 and doesn't know her behind from her elbow.)

I want to leave, but finances and obligations prohibit me. What can I do to make them see that I'm doing everything I can?

NOT VALUED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

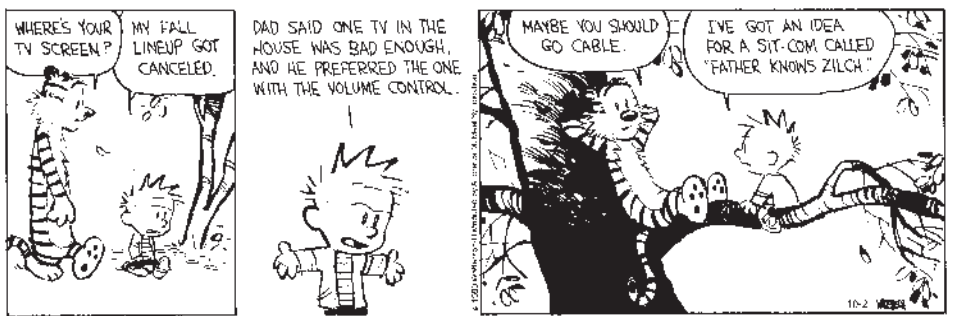
DEAR NOT VALUED: I am sorry for what you are experiencing. The thing about being compared to a deceased person (or two) is there is a tendency to idealize the dearly departed. That you are being given short shrift for your efforts is sad. I think it's time to speak up and let your feelings be known. As to your niece, the "expert" on child care, tune her out as you would with static on your radio.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

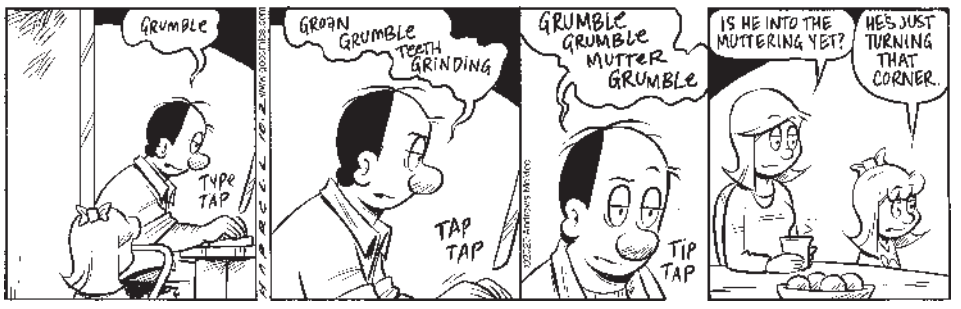

WHERE'S YOUR TV SCREEN?
MY FALL LINEUP GOT CANCELED.
DAD SAID ONE TV IN THE HOUSE WAS BAD ENOUGH, AND HE PREFERRED THE ONE WITH THE VOLUME CONTROL.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO CABLE.
I'VE GOT AN IDEA FOR A SIT-COM CALLED "FATHER KNOWS ZILCH."

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

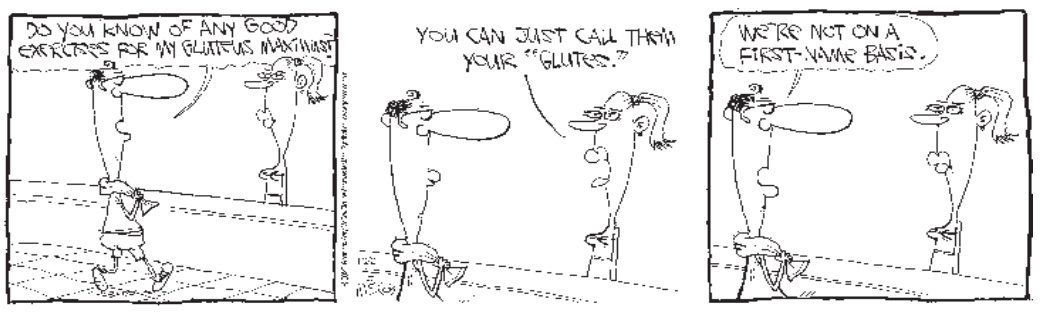
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

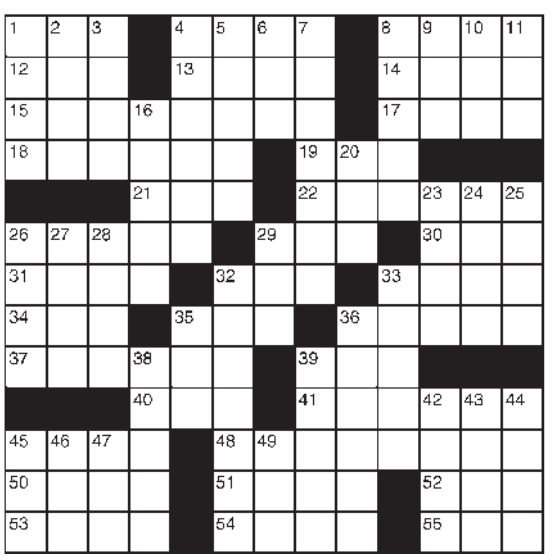
ACROSS
1 "Fresh Air" airer
4 Fem. counterpart
8 Drain blockage
12 Odometer start
13 Biblical grain measure
14 Angelic instrument
15 Newscast opener
17 Early birds?
18 Icy downpours
19 Resort
21 Nanny's charge
22 Police commissioner, in tabloid headlines
26 Book of maps
29 Purring pet
30 Med. plan
31 Cowboy's footwear
32 Crony
33 Tara of "Sharknado"
34 Olympic skater Midori
35 Vat
36 Floats, as a scent
37 List of best-sellers
39 Writer's block?
40 Possesses
41 Delivers a keynote
45 Hawaiian island
48 Gold medal, e.g.
50 Diarist Frank
51 Author Wiesel
52 Historic period
53 Santa's runway
54 Tear
55 Weir

DOWN
1 Forget-me- — (flowers)
2 Motel amenity
3 Lariat
4 Guiding maxims
5 "It's — Unusual Day"
6 Sun. talk
7 Waterford product
8 Tightfisted
9 Trail the pack
10 Assoc.
11 Family docs
16 Attack
20 Soup cooker
23 Gourmet cook
24 Skip
25 Okra units
26 Slightly
27 Dorothy's dog
28 Roller coaster feature
29 Urban carrier
32 Groan-inducing humorist
33 Doppler device
35 Chai, e.g.
36 Bent out of shape
38 Pilferer
39 Visit briefly
42 Even
43 Pound of verse
44 Stitched line
45 Ruin the veneer
46 Year in Acapulco
47 Family card game
49 Flamenco cheer

Solution time: 25 mins.

O	W	I	S		G	O	A	T		G	N	U	
R	I	F	A		O	R	C	I		F	O	S	
G	F	T	S	I	O	R	T	Y		T	A	M	
S	F	A	S	O	N			M	O	C	I	I	A
				F	T		G	R	F	C	O		
T	U	G	S		F	R	O		T	M	A	N	
A	N	F			I	I	P			F	R	I	
B	O	T	S		A	P	F		R	Y	A	N	
		G	O	N	G	S		R	A				
A	I	C	L	I			T	C	T	I	N	G	
S	R	I		G	E	T	B	E	T	T	E	R	
T	A	N		E	L	I	S		L	A	R	A	
A	N	G		L	O	O	P		E	N	D	S	

Yesterday's answer 10-2



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kelly Ripa, 50; Sting, 69; Annie Leibovitz, 71; Avery Brooks, 72.

Happy Birthday: Protect your home, meaningful relationships and reputation. Concentrate on doing the right thing and associating with the people who bring out the best in you. Distance yourself from those who encourage indulgent behavior. Be receptive to physical fitness, good health and passionate encounters that offer hope, tranquility and peace. Follow your heart, and stand up for your beliefs. Your numbers are 5, 18, 24, 28, 29, 31, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Don't get upset; get moving. Channel your energy into something constructive. Control situations, and avoid letting anyone goad you into a spat that will waste time and cause stress. Concentrate on personal growth, not changing others. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Look at every situation thoroughly before you make a move. Some underhandedness will prevail if you are lax and let others take control. Personal improvements will bring the highest reward. Romance is in the stars and will enhance your life. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Get to the bottom of any situation that has left you feeling uncertain. Ask questions, be direct and don't settle for secondhand information. How you approach people will make a difference to the outcome. Benevolence will pay off. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* An unexpected change will occur if you let your anger or stubbornness turn into a battle with someone you love. Take a step back, and do your best to nurture and understand what others are going through before you take action. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Follow your heart. If you give someone an inch, they will take a mile and leave you in an awkward position. Put more merit on what's important to you and how to go about getting your way. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* How you handle your money will determine how much cash you have for entertainment and luxury purchases. Practical spending and investments will be necessary if you want to make improvements to your lifestyle. Prioritize what's important to you. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Remain calm, and you'll avoid getting into a battle with someone you love. Put your energy into something that will bring concrete results. Focus on love, partnerships and doing what's best for you and everyone important to you. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Take care of business. Leave nothing unfinished or open to criticism. Consider making a change at home that will give you greater freedom to do as you please. Touch base with friends and relatives, and you'll acquire valuable information. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* You may want to party, but before you do, consider the consequences. You can have fun without jeopardizing your health or reputation. Plan to spend quiet time with someone you love, and avoid a crowded situation. Personal growth and romance are favored. ✪✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't let the little things annoy you. Keep your emotions tucked away, listen carefully and go about your business. A change you make at home will turn out to be a good move. Be practical, and use your intelligence to get ahead. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* A partnership will interest you. Put together a must-have list before you negotiate. You may not get everything you want, but you will get the essentials if you are ready to barter. Celebrate new beginnings with someone you love. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A change to how you handle your money, investments and binding relationships will make a difference to the way others respond. Use charm and offer incentives to gain the support you require to reach your goal. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are proactive, enthusiastic and unpredictable. You are persistent and demonstrative.

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EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2			8		3	7		9
				9				
5					2			
8		1						3
	7			3			6	
3						1		4
			1					2
				4				
4		6	9		7			5

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

2	4	8	6	7	9	3	5	1
9	5	3	8	4	1	2	6	7
7	6	1	5	2	3	4	9	8
4	9	2	1	3	8	6	7	5
1	7	6	9	5	4	8	2	3
3	8	5	2	6	7	9	1	4
8	2	9	4	1	5	7	3	6
5	3	4	7	9	6	1	8	2
6	1	7	3	8	2	5	4	9

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

WORKING FROM HOME — Solution: 6 letters

G	A	R	M	O	D	E	R	O	B	S	Z	P	H	O
N	N	E	N	U	R	S	E	T	R	O	P	P	U	S
I	A	I	H	O	M	E	G	N	O	O	M	A	U	C
T	S	P	T	I	M	E	N	M	I	A	T	R	C	H
N	A	P	B	E	E	C	O	I	C	L	V	U	E	E
U	L	A	W	R	E	N	L	E	T	E	N	A	T	D
O	E	H	E	A	E	M	S	O	Y	U	L	O	A	U
C	S	H	E	Y	L	A	O	S	T	T	O	M	K	L
C	D	L	S	A	B	K	K	T	H	H	H	R	E	E
A	D	V	I	S	O	R	S	S	O	T	E	N	O	T
F	E	C	O	S	K	Y	P	E	Y	G	E	S	U	I
J	O	I	N	Y	T	T	A	H	C	A	O	I	T	R
S	A	C	C	E	S	S	R	E	K	A	B	A	U	W
H	C	N	U	L	O	Y	A	L	T	Y	S	L	L	Q
C	A	L	L	S	L	I	P	P	E	R	S	T	E	P

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Able, Access, Accounting, Adhere, Advisors, Asana, Bakers, Basecamp, Boredom, Breaks, Calls, Chatty, Clothes, Focus, Goal, GoToMeeting, Happier, Health, Home, Join, Lists, Longer, Loyalty, Lunch, Money, Noise, Nurse, Online, Pets, Quiet, Rhythm, Routine, Sales, Schedule, Skype, Slippers, Social, Space, Support, Surveys, Takeout, Time, Tutor, Walks, Write, Zoom

Yesterday's Answer: Wrestle

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand. Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

Lakers, LeBron roll past Heat in opener

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP)—LeBron James finally got an easy Game 1 in the NBA Finals.

A very easy one, at that.

Anthony Davis scored 34 points, James had 25 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists and the Los Angeles Lakers rolled past the Miami Heat 116-98 on Wednesday night.

"The bigger the moment, he's just raising his play," Lakers coach Frank Vogel said about Davis, who was making his finals debut and made it look easy.

The Heat left beaten and battered. Point guard Goran Dragic left in the second quarter and, a person with knowledge of the situation, said he was diagnosed with a torn plantar fascia in his left foot—which obviously jeopardizes his availability for the rest of the finals. And All-Star center Bam Adebayo left in the third quarter after apparently aggravating a left shoulder strain.

"We're much better than we showed tonight," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "You have to credit the Lakers, and we'll get to work for the next one."

Game 2 is Friday night.

Kentavious Caldwell-Pope scored 13 points, Danny Green had 11 and Alex Caruso finished with 10 for the Lakers. They returned to the finals for the first time in a decade and sent a very clear message. James' teams had been 1-8 in Game 1 of past finals, with losses in each of the last seven openers.

Not this one.

"We kind of picked it up on both ends of the floor," Davis said.

Jimmy Butler fought through a twisted left ankle to score 23 points for Miami. Kendrick Nunn scored 18 points for the Heat, Tyler Herro had 14 and Jae Crowder 12.

"I, and we, are here for him," Butler said about Dragic. "We know how much he wants to win, how much he wants to go to war and battle with us. And obviously, we love him for that and we want him out there with us. But whatever the docs tell him to do, that's what he's got to do. ... He's got to take care of himself first."

Adebayo was held to eight points in 21 minutes, and Miami went with subs for a fourth-quarter burst that turned a total rout into something only slightly more palatable in terms of final margin.

Dragic averaged 22.8 points to lead the Heat in their first-round sweep of Indiana in the first round. Butler paced Miami with 23.4 per game when it knocked out top-seeded Milwaukee in the Eastern Conference semifinals and Adebayo scored 21.8 per game in the East finals, making the Heat the first team since the 1999 San Antonio Spurs to reach the NBA Finals with three leading scorers in each of the first three rounds.

The Lakers did whatever they wanted. They outrebounded Miami 54-36, led by as many as 32 points, and made 15 3-pointers—a big number for a team that doesn't necessarily count on piling up that many points from beyond the arc. They're 21-3 this season when making at least 14 3s.

AP

Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James, left, passes the ball while pressured by Miami Heat's Bam Adebayo (13) during the second half of Game 1 of the NBA Finals Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

The only stretch that provided hope for Miami came in the first six minutes. The Heat scored on six consecutive possessions in what became a 13-0 run to take a 23-10 lead midway through the opening period.

So, the first six minutes were fine for Miami.

Everything else was all Lakers.

"You have to get a feel for how hard Miami plays," James said. "They smacked us in the mouth and we got a sense of that. ... From that moment when it was 23-10, we started to play to our capabilities."

The simplest way to sum up what happened over the rest of the opening half is this: Lakers 55, Heat 25. The Lakers came into Game 1 ranked 21st out of the 22 teams that spent time in the bubble from 3-point range, making only 33.6% of their tries from deep at Disney. They were the only team in the postseason to have two games shooting less than 25% on 3s.

Perhaps they were due. The Lakers went 9-for-11 on 3's in the final 16 minutes of the first half. Of the nine Lakers who played in the first two quarters, eight tried a 3-pointer—and all eight made at least one.

They closed the first quarter on a 19-3 run. Herro banked in a 3 from a sharp angle for a 43-41 Miami lead with 7:33 left in the half, and then the Lakers took off again, this time on a 24-5 burst to go into the break with a 65-48 lead.

The Lakers started the third on another run, this one 18-3, and the rout was officially underway.

NBA still hoping to open next season in arenas

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP)—NBA Commissioner Adam Silver reiterated Wednesday that the league's hope is to begin next season with teams in their home arenas and with fans in the seats, though cautioned that there are still numerous unknowns to work through before any plan can be finalized.

Silver, in his annual state-of-the-league address before Game 1 of the NBA Finals, also said the protocols that allowed the league to get through a restart in a so-called bubble at Walt Disney World—such as strict adherence to mask-wearing and social distancing—proved that a balance can be struck "between public health and economic necessity."

"It's certainly our goal," Silver said, referring to playing in arenas. "But it's dependent on some additional advancements. Rapid testing may be the key here."

The NBA was the first major sports league to shut down because of the coronavirus pandemic on March 11, and it took more than four months to come up with the plan to restart the season at Disney. The league restarted with 22 franchises that came to Disney in early July, and the Miami Heat and Los Angeles Lakers—the last two left—are nearing the three-month mark in the bubble.

League and team revenues will take a huge hit this year, partly because about 15% of the regular season was lost to the virus, partly because the 88 games that were played at Disney before the postseason and then the entire playoff run was played without fans buying tickets, food, drink and souvenirs in arenas.

"I don't have expectations of labor issues ... there's no doubt there are issues on the table that have to be negotiated," Silver said. "I think while no doubt there will be issues and difficult negotiations ahead, I think we'll work them out as we always have."

The league still hasn't decided when free agency will start, what the salary cap will be for next season, what the tax line will be and other key details. All of that will have to be worked out with the National Basketball Players Association, and Silver said he expects talks to intensify on those matters once the NBA Finals are over.

"I think we all understand the essential parameters," Silver said.

Michele Roberts, the executive director of the NBPA, said in an interview with The Associated Press on Wednesday that "either very simple or very complicated conversations are going to be had" to work through the two primary issues—coming to grips with the lost revenue from this season, and how to best function in a world that is going to be dealing with the coronavirus for the foreseeable future.

Her hope is that the NBA and NBPA figure out a deal in November, which would allow for next season to begin sometime in early 2021.

"We don't have to be frozen paralyzed by this virus, but we don't have to enact a doomsday scenario, assuming that the virus has destroyed our game in ways that will not be repaired," Roberts said. "If we can sit down like adults, I think we can get a new deal in November and we can announce the start of the season. I don't have any reason to doubt that we will be able to start in 2021 and have a full season."

The NBA's hope is to play most, if not all, of next season in arenas and before at least some fans. A bubble or bubbles could happen, though it seems close to a worst-case scenario.

"Do I want to do it again? Not if I can avoid it," said Roberts, who spent the entire restart in the bubble. "Those are my marching orders: Not if we can avoid it. Now, having said that, the players want to make sure we can save our season again."

For his part, Silver also is hoping to avoid another bubble.

"I'm hoping, ideally, that we do not return to a bubble environment," Silver said.

Meanwhile, Silver revealed that when the NBA was seeking ways to restart the season, Disney was not the first choice on his list.

"I resisted it, frankly," Silver said. "I said it's just not realistic."

Silver said Disney kept pushing, and that Orlando Magic CEO Alex Martins—the Magic have an obvious close relationship with Disney—also helped turn his mind toward seeing if the restart could occur in Lake Buena Vista.

"He was someone who pushed hard and knows this community well, so thank you to Alex," Silver said.

Yanks oust Indians; Rays, Astros advance

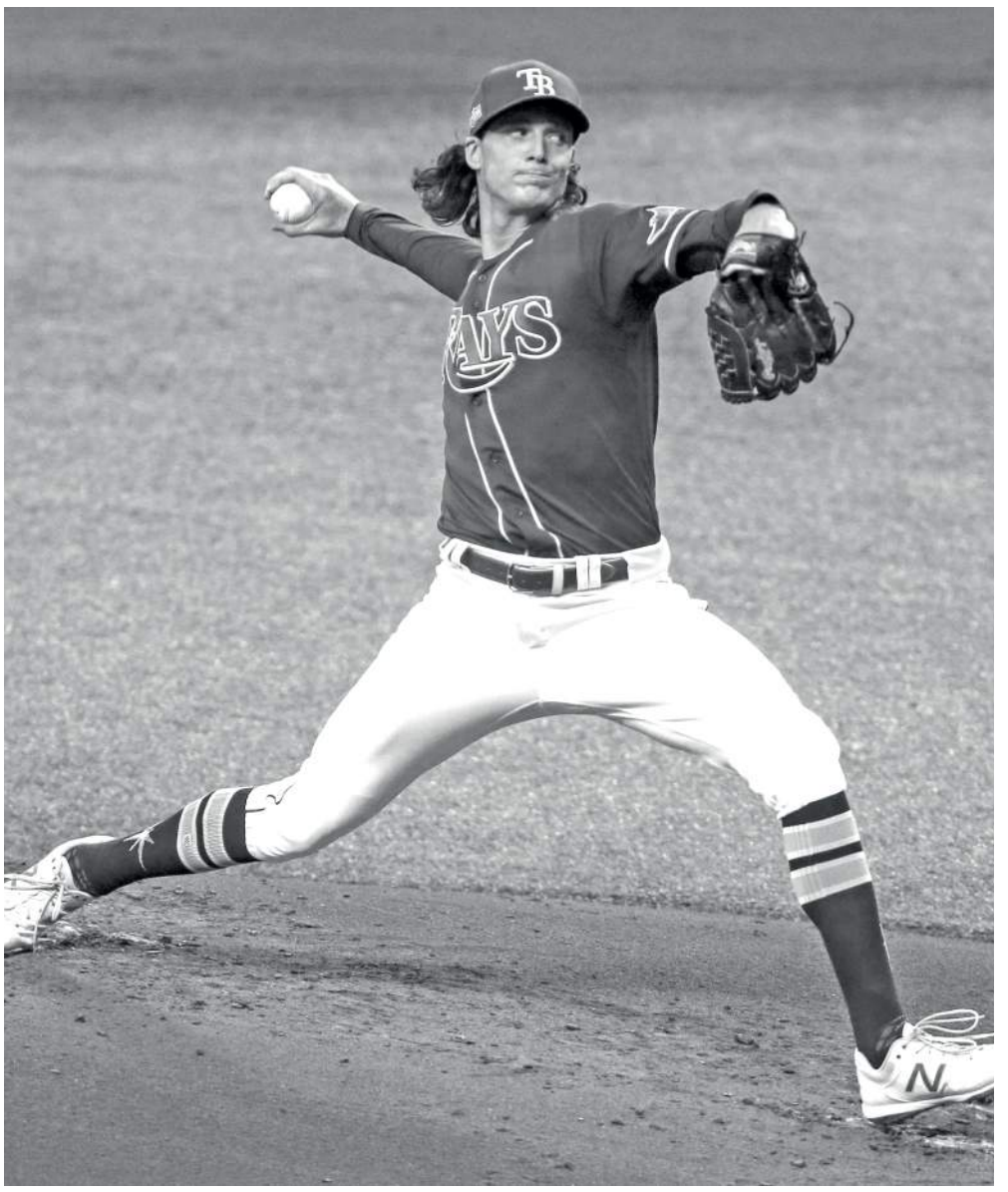
CLEVELAND (AP)—DJ LeMahieu's tiebreaking single in the ninth inning off Cleveland closer Brad Hand sent the New York Yankees into the AL Division Series with a wild 10-9 win over the Indians early Thursday in a rain-delayed Game 2 that started in September and ended in October.

At 4 hours, 50 minutes—even without the delays—it was the longest nine-inning game (regular season or postseason) in major league history.

LeMahieu, the AL batting champion during the shortened, 60-game regular season, grounded his hit into center field to score Gio Urshela, who hit a go-ahead grand slam earlier. Down 9-8, the Yankees tied it in the ninth on Gary Sanchez's sacrifice fly off Hand, who went 16 of 16 on save tries during the season.

The Yankees stumbled into the postseason. But their heavy-hitting lineup came alive over two nights in chilly, empty Progressive Field. New York pounded Cleveland ace Shane Bieber in the opener and now the Yankees, who hit seven homers in the two games, have found their swing as the calendar flips to the month that defines them.

They'll play rival Tampa Bay in a best-of-five ALDS in San Diego next week.



AP

Tampa Bay Rays starting pitcher Tyler Glasnow delivers to the Toronto Blue Jays during the first inning of Game 2 of an American League wild-card series Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Astros 3, Twins 1

Shaken up by a scandal before the virus outbreak shrunk the season, the Houston Astros barely played well enough to reach the playoffs—with the rest of baseball actively rooting against them.

Well, they're not ready to leave yet.

Carlos Correa hit a two-out, tiebreaking home run in the seventh inning for the Astros, who produced another stifling pitching performance and swept Minnesota over two games with a victory Wednesday that sent the Twins to a record 18th straight postseason loss.

"I know a lot of people are mad. I know a lot of people don't want to see us here," Correa said. "But what are they going to say now?"

Nine months after Houston's rules-breaking, sign-stealing system was revealed, the Astros advanced to the Division Series in Los Angeles. As the sixth seed, they'll face the Oakland Athletics or Chicago White Sox in a best-of-five matchup starting Monday at Dodger Stadium.

Rays 8, Blue Jays 2

The Tampa Bay Rays gathered in front of their dugout and posed for a celebratory team picture they're hoping will not be the last they take this postseason.

Hunter Renfroe hit a grand slam and the top-seeded Rays won a postseason series for the first time in 12 years, overpowering the young Toronto Blue Jays to finish a two-game sweep of their wild-card matchup.

With a roster featuring just a handful of players who have posted impressive resumes so far, the AL East champs believe they're nowhere near finished.

Cardinals 7, Padres 4

Given a chance to catch their breath after a crazy month and a half, the St. Louis Cardinals settled into the playoffs with yet another win against the San Diego Padres.

Paul Goldschmidt hit a two-run home run during a four-run first inning, St. Louis' bullpen held strong after starter Kwang Hyun Kim stumbled in his playoff debut and the Cardinals ruined the Padres' long-awaited return to the playoffs with a victory in the opener of their NL wild-card series.

The Cardinals need one more win to eliminate the Padres from the postseason for the fourth time since 1996. They swept the Padres in the NL Division Series in 1996 and 2005, and won 3-1 in 2006, which was the last time San Diego made the postseason. Game 2 is Thursday.

Marlins 5, Cubs 1

The Miami Marlins just kept fighting. When Kyle Hendricks finally stumbled, they pounced.

Corey Dickerson hit a three-run homer off a fading Hendricks in the seventh inning, and Miami beat the Chicago Cubs in Game 1 of their NL wild-card series.

Jesus Aguilar also homered and Sandy Alcantara pitched three-hit ball into the seventh as Miami conjured up memories of past playoff magic in the franchise's first postseason game since it won the World Series in 2003.

Braves 1, Reds 0

Freddie Freeman singled home the winning run in the 13th inning, finally ending the longest scoreless duel in postseason history as the Atlanta Braves defeated the Cincinnati Reds in the opener of their NL wild-card series.

The East champion Braves won the first game of a postseason series for the first time since the 2001 NL Division Series and can wrap up the best-of-three series on Thursday. If they do, it will snap a record-tying streak of 10 straight playoff round losses.

Athletics 5, White Sox 3

Oakland's long-reliable regulars Marcus Semien and Khris Davis powered a couple of home runs, Mark Canha made a game-saving catch against the wall and red-hot right-hander Chris Bassitt delivered the start of his life.

Semien and Davis connected early and Oakland's bullpen barely held off Jose Abreu and the Chicago White Sox late for a win Wednesday that sent the AL playoff series to a deciding Game 3.

Dodgers 4, Brewers 2

Mookie Betts had two hits and an RBI, Corey Seager homered and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Milwaukee Brewers in the opener of their NL wild-card series.

The eight-time West champion Dodgers capitalized early in a bullpen game for the Brewers and can wrap up the best-of-three series on Thursday. Milwaukee limped into the postseason as the No. 8 seed without its best starter and reliever, who are hurt.

The Dodgers took a 2-0 lead on a leadoff double by Betts and four walks by left-hander Brent Suter in the first, tying for the most walks by a pitcher in a single inning in postseason history.

Gold Cup: USMNT to face Canada, Martinique

NEW YORK—The United States men's national team learned the identity of two of its three group-stage opponents at the 2022 CONCACAF Gold Cup, assuming the biannual regional championship tournament goes ahead next summer as scheduled in the age of COVID-19.

The U.S. will meet northern neighbor Canada and the island nation of Martinique in the first round of the Gold Cup. It's final Group B foe will be one of Barbados, Bermuda, Haiti or St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

As it stands, the Gold Cup is scheduled to run from July 10-Aug. 1 2021. Nothing is set in stone when it comes to international sports these days, though. The impact of the novel coronavirus has already pushed back World Cup qualifying matches in North and Central America and the Caribbean, the region's Miami-based governing body announced earlier this month. There are currently not enough windows in FIFA's international match calendar to accommodate those games along with the Gold Cup and Nations League, a new event that kicked off last year.

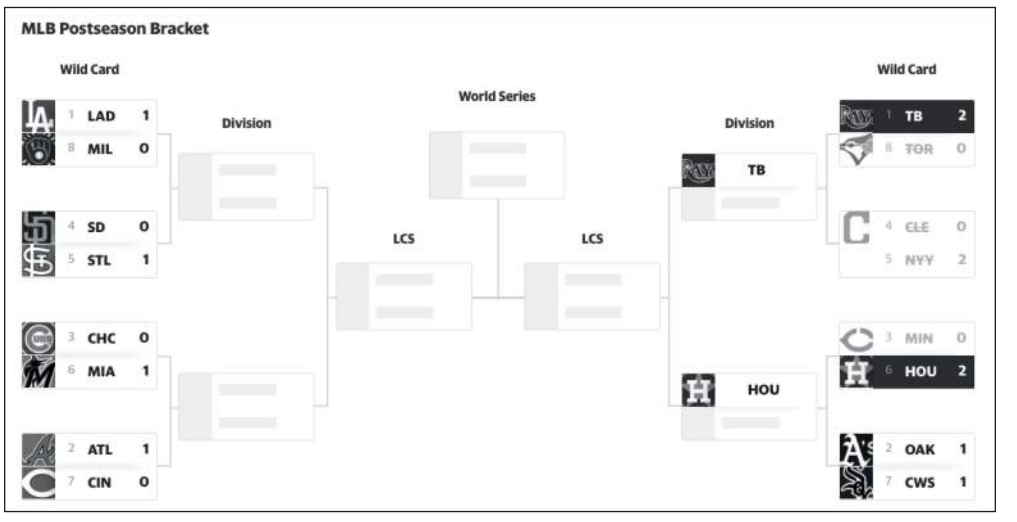
The USMNT met Canada's improving squad twice last fall in the Nations League. Last October in Toronto, the Americans lost a match to Les Rouges for the first time in almost 34 years. The U.S. returned the favor the following month in Orlando, beating Alphonso Davies-led Canada 4-1, but a budding rivalry was born. Gregg Berhalter's side went on to advance to the Nations League semifinals, which have been rescheduled for June of next year, adding to the scheduling crush. The U.S. is also hoping to participate in next summer's Olympics in Tokyo after missing out on the last two Summer Games.

"That match means a lot to our players," Canadian coach John Herdman said of the U.S. tile after the draw, which was the first in the Gold Cup's history.

"They kicked our butt up in Toronto and we beat them pretty good in Orlando," Berhalter said of Canada. "We're looking forward to playing them in the Gold Cup because we know it's going to be a really competitive game."

As for how he's going to balance his player pool with the Gold Cup, Nations League, Olympics and all-important World Cup qualifiers all happening around the same time, entirely separate rosters could be summoned for one or more of those competitions. The only thing that's certain is that after failing to make the 2018 World Cup, program headliners like Chelsea's Christian Pulisic and Juventus' Weston McKennie will be prioritized for the qualifiers.

"By and large, we want to make really good decisions to make sure every team has both the opportunity to win a trophy, and we're also mindful of [how much work] the players have been doing." ***(AP/NBC)***



Injured Serena out; Nadal soldiers on

AP
Serena Williams serves against Kristie Ahn in the first round match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, France, Monday, Sept. 28, 2020.

PARIS (AP)—Serena Williams laughed at her own jokes and sounded an upbeat tone—or one as positive, at least, as could be expected from a player whose latest bid for a record-tying 24th Grand Slam title ended because of injury, as did her season, probably.

Williams tried to warm up for her second-round match at Roland Garros on Wednesday but huddled afterward with her coach and determined that if walking on the Achilles tendon she hurt at the U.S. Open nearly three weeks ago was difficult, then trying to run and compete made little sense.

"If it was my knee, that would be more really devastating for me. But this is something that just happened, and it's super acute. That's totally different. I feel like my body is actually doing really, really well," said Williams, who turned 39 on Saturday. "I just ran into, for lack of a better word, bad timing and bad luck, really, in New York."

Williams withdrew about an hour before she would have played Tsvetana Pironkova at Court Philippe Chatrier, her earliest exit from a major tournament in six years and the most significant development in Paris on Day 4, which also included a straight-set loss by U.S. Open runner-up Victoria Azarenka.

"That's disappointing on many levels, of course," said John Isner, the 21st-seeded man who was beaten in four sets by 20-year-old American qualifier Sebastian Korda. "It's disappointing personally for Serena, but it's disappointing for the tournament and for tennis fans worldwide."

Williams' departure, and the 10th-seeded Azarenka's 6-2, 6-2 dismissal by 161st-ranked Anna Karolina Schmiedlova—someone who lost 13 consecutive Grand Slam matches until defeating Williams' older sister, Venus, earlier this week—meant zero of the four female semifinalists at Flushing Meadows made it past the second round at Roland Garros.

In the men's field, it was business as usual as Rafa Nadal continued his quest for a record-extending 13th French Open title with a 6-1 6-0 6-3 crushing of American Mackenzie McDonald to reach the third round.

The Spanish second seed, also looking to equal Roger Federer's record of 20 men's singles Grand Slam titles, was never troubled on court Philippe Chatrier.

The claycourt master played deep, using his forehand to devastating effect to set up a meeting with Japanese Kei Nishikori or Italian Stefano Travaglia.

After world No. 236 McDonald won the second game, Nadal bagged 11 games in a row to move two sets up and despite some resistance from his opponent early in the third set, he had no trouble improving his win-loss record at Roland Garros to 95-2.

"My objective is to play as well as I can. It was a good match for me today. I'm very happy," Nadal said.

"Then it's another difficult match. We'll see, I hope I'll be at a good level. It's always special for me to play here in Paris, on court Philippe Chatrier."

Nadal looks to be on a semifinal collision course with Dominic Thiem, who he beat in the last two finals in Paris.

After a first-round match played in chilly and damp conditions, the 34-year-old benefited from better weather on Wednesday.

"Today was not that cold, so that's the main thing. Not that cold, the conditions are not that bad," said the Spaniard, who had complained about the new balls used in Paris being too heavy.

"The ball is still heavy. When is not that cold, the ball is little bit less heavy always. I see the predictions the next couple of days are not very good."

That means Nadal may have to play under the closed roof on court Philippe Chatrier for the first time, but he looks in good form.

Krishnan wins SGA May Ace

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Das Krishnan joined the winners circle of Saipan Golfers Association after ruling the SGA May Ace Tournament held on the east course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort last month.

Krishnan posted a net 66 for a two-stroke victory over Steve Balakrishna. Nick Sablan completed the Top 3. The 11-handicapper Krishnan shot a 38 and 39 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross 77, while Balakrishna, who holds the same handicap as the former, tallied a 40 and 39 for a gross 79. Sablan had the best gross scores among the Top finishers with his 76 (37 on the front nines and 39 on the back), but his 5 handicap left him with a net 71.

Krishnan

With Krishnan winning the May Ace, he now qualifies for the SGA Ace of Aces, joining previous monthly winners Attorney General Edward Manibusan (January), Jung Eun Teack (February), Nick Sablan (March), and Juan "Pan" Guerrero (April).

Sablan, besides his Top 3 finish, took two closest to the pin honors, achieving the feat on both par-3 holes—the 130-yard No. 6 and 122-yard No. 15. On the par-3, 150-yard No. 4, Manibusan hit a closest to the pin shot, while no SGA player won in another par-3 hole—the 170-yard No. 11.

Sablan also made the longest drive on the par-5, 464-yard No. 2 hole, while Tony Deleon Guerrero had the same shot on the longer hole, 502-yard No. 18.

Meanwhile, SGA will hold a tournament this Sunday at the Kingfisher Golf Links with the June Ace at stake. Tee time is at 9am, while check-in is set for 8:30am.

NMI

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people on children's rights. I believe that this topic is relevant all over the world and I would love to be able to help address this within the NMI," the 17-year-old athlete said.

Hall added that having conversations with her fellow players and subject experts and exchanging ideas and opinions with them helped broaden her knowledge about the big impact of the sport in the community.

"I am grateful for my selection to participate in the e-Goal program. This gives me the opportunity to learn about improving communities and social ideals through the power of football. The program has shed light on topics such as diversity, philanthropy, and child protection and has connected these to football and how the sport can help foster positive development. The opportunity to learn from players around the world is always great and helpful," she said.

Borja, meanwhile, said taking part in the e-Goal program made him realized that his responsibility as a national player is not limited to his team or the sport, as he is also expected to do something worthy for the community he lives in and its people.

He added that taking part in activities outside football and in events that would benefit the community is the way to go. Borja also said that giving back, sharing your football skills to other players, having the right attitude on and off the pitch, and being a good role model to others, especially to the young ones, are part of being a responsible national team player.

AFC and Aurora's e-Goal program is ongoing and will run until next month. More than 60 players from 35 nations across Asia are attending the 40-day virtual program that had its pilot in June with representatives from 12 countries from AFC's West zone completing the sessions. With the success of the first phase of the program, the AFC decided to extend e-Goal to member associations in ASEAN, East, South and Central zones.

"Together with our member associations, our partners Aurora and all our stakeholders, we will continue to plant the seeds of hope for children of all backgrounds and abilities to develop their capabilities, instill lifelong values, and enhance character development through football," AFC president Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa was quoted as saying in an AFC statement released after e-Goal was launched.

HEAT

From Page 24

It would go from bad to worse in the second quarter, as LeBron finally joined the show and Playoff Rondo was true to his moniker and as a result LA enjoyed a 17-point lead at the half. To add insult the injury, Adebayo would soon join Dragic in the locker room with his ailing shoulder and the Lakers continued the avalanche of points and the Heat saw their deficit grow to 26 after three quarters of play. Not that I was still watching, as I was so bummed out that I elected to just doze off.

Injuries are part of the game and ironically the Lakers themselves have had their fair share of NBA Finals debacles marred by the injury bug. In the 1989 NBA Finals against the Detroit Pistons, the Lakers came crashing down and missed a three-peat and a fitting sendoff for retiring NBA great Kareen Abdul-Jabbar when Magic Johnson pulled a hamstring in Game 2. The injury would sideline him for the rest of the series, which proved to be a short four-game sweep by the Bad Boys.

Lightning struck twice, as the Lakers again came short in the 1991 NBA Finals against Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls when leading scorers James Worth (ankle) and Byron Scott (shoulder) had to exit the series permanently in Game 4. The Bulls would end the series in Game 5 that proved to be their springboard to two more championships (and three more after His Airness unretired and had a full season in 1996) and an end to the era of the Showtime Lakers.

Just last year, the Toronto Raptors gave Canucks something to brag about when injuries to Kevin Durant (Game 5) and Klay Thompson (Game 6) allowed them to make the most of Kawhi Leonard's lone season in the Great White North to win the 2019 NBA championship.

If Adebayo is not close to 100% and Gogi doesn't see a second of playing time the rest of the series, commissioner Adam Silver might as well gift-wrap the championship to the Lakers. That is unless Kelly Olynyk reprises his greatest hits against Kevin Love (look up the 2015 first round between the Cavaliers and Celtics) on AD or Daniel Stern and Dan Akroyd somehow kidnap The King ala *Celtic Pride*. I'm of course just kidding and it's only Game 1. The Heat may make a series of it yet…or I may just have to again take my siestas at an earlier time.

Lakers, LeBron roll past Heat in opener

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USING FOOTBALL TO FOSTER DEVELOPMENT

NMI players embrace role

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Three CNMI youth players have been selected to participate in an Asian Football Confederation program that uses the sport as a platform for social change and development.

Taka Borja, Lilian Podziewski, and Julianne Hall, who are members of the Commonwealth's youth national team, are representing the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association in AFC's e-Goal program. The initiative, a collaboration from the AFC through its AFC Dream Asia Foundation, and the Jordan-based youth development organization Aurora, features online discussion among youth players in the Asian zone and world-leading guest speakers from reputable non-government organizations with topics including sport for development, philanthropy in football, health and well-being, civic engagement, and peer education.

Hall has attended four out of the first five e-Goal's sessions, which started mid last month, and the discussion about child protection left an impression on her.

"I learned about children's rights and people's responsibility in ensuring children are safe, both mentally and physically when playing sports. I found this session interesting because before I never realized how football could play a significant role in educating

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Heat on thin ice

MARKSMAN
By MARK RABAGO
Associate Editor

Growing up Mark wanted to play pro basketball. When his talent and height didn't measure up, he opted for a career in journalism instead.

Miami Heat fans better hope that Big Face Coffee has rejuvenating powers as Game 1 of the NBA Finals against the Los Angeles Lakers saw starters Goran Dragic and Bam Adebayo exit with injuries and as a result the Purple and Gold led by as much as 32 points en route to a convincing 116-98 victory.

The good news is x-rays on Adebayo came out negative after he aggravated an already strained shoulder in the third quarter. The all-star's status is day-to-day. The bad news is The Dragon could be out of the rest of the series after suffering a torn left plantar fasciitis. Without the former all-star, who is leading the Heat in scoring in the playoffs, Miami may have to rely on rookies Tyler Herro and Kendrick Nunn to man the point. Even Jimmy Butler had a scare when he twisted his ankle driving to the basket in the waning seconds of the first half.

Coach Erik Spoelstra and Heat president Pat Riley now have 48 hours to either find a magic elixir or some kind of Rosetta Stone to decipher the Lakers and beat LeBron James and Anthony Davis—aka the Monstars. If not, the Heat's chances of winning the Larry O'Brien trophy—much less extend the series to six or seven games—are as thin as Alex "Bald Mamba" Caruso's hairline.

AP
Miami Heat's Jimmy Butler grimaces in pain after an apparent injury during the first half of Game 1 of basketball's NBA Finals Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

The game actually started quite well for the South Beach Boys as Dragic drove and kicked out to Butler and Jae Crowder leading to splashes from 3-point country and in a flash, the Heat were surprisingly up by 13 points. That didn't last though, as the Lakers bench came in and shot the Lakers back into contention with a lot of help from AD.

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